用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので 1

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lang="en">

Yomuin-san wa Yuusha ja Arimasenno de - WN Chapter 01-47

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Chapter 1: My Prayer was Answered

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１ーぶんどられて願ったことは

Chapter 1 – My Prayer was Answered

TL: xsomeblackjewx (Hokage Translations)
Editor/ Proofreader: uniquegasuki

At Sakuragaoka (桜ケ丘) high school, Hasebe (支部, はせべ) Kurando (蔵人, くらんど), a high school janitor was summoned along with dozens of other students and 3 teachers while they were in the back of the school yard picking up garbage after a school festival.
In an instant, the world was entirely covered in a bright light.
Immediately after the unusual bright flash, everyone felt as if they were floating.
In the next moment, the sensation of suspension disappeared along with the blinding light.
Feeling a sense of relief Kurando slowly raised his eyelids.
The students began talking amongst themselves as the 3 shaken teachers tried to calm them down. The number of strained voices full of confusion and tension gradually increased.
“Where are we?”
“Why are we in such a place?”
“When will we be able to go home?”

【You all are currently drifting in between the universe’s infinite space.】

A voice resonants in their head.
It is calm, mysterious and unquestionably motherly.
The voice quieted down all of the teachers and students.

【I’m sorry to say, but all of you are being summoned.】

Although they could comprehend what was said, they didn’t understand what it meant.

【In another world different from this one an inexperienced genius, overflowing with talent, jokingly succeeded in summoning heroes to their world.】

In disbelief, the (1st-year class) gym teacher raised his voice in objection.
And then, one after another the students begin to raise their voice.

【I cannot prevent the summoning because you all are no longer on Earth, and thus you all are no longer under my management. I do not have any control over the world you all are being summoned to either.】

【As of now, I can only intervene because you all are vaguely traveling through the universe.】

A teacher tried to further voice their concern but was interrupted.

【From here on the world you all are going to is not entirely controlled by humans, like on Earth. There will be unimaginable amounts of danger lurking everywhere.】

Those harsh words made a lump form in everyone’s throat that prevented them from speaking up.
It felt similar to how a mother scolds her child for misbehaving.

【You all will not understand the world’s language, and nor do you all have the power to resist as none of you possess magic. You all would be hopelessly powerless in that world.】

The voice unexpectedly softens.

【I will not abandon you all into such a place unprepared. Therefore, I will grant everyone a small amount of power. First of all, everyone will be adjusted to that world’s language. And then, a body that can adapt.】

Everyone is engulfed in blue light.

【Now, I will grant you all the power to protect yourselves and your companions.】

A mass of light begins to form in front of everyone; slowly it takes the shape of a sword.
Naturally, everyone was not on guard. Without incident occurring they obtained it.

【Now then, go forth my children. Remain in good health.】

"My child?" There didn't seem to be any problems. From their body a dark light is emitting; it felt as if they were being pulled away.
And then, at that time.
From Kurando's hand, the sword is snatched away.
Kurando saw the back of a 1st-year student…… the person's name he did not know.
He only managed to recall the person's face. Rumor has it that person is apparently the prideful son of some company president. Anyways, he heard the rumor from teachers gossiping.
However, Kurando might not have remembered what the person exactly looked like. It is foolish to try and remember the full names of half the students in the school. Therefore, it might not be the correct face.
Not having the other party present, Kurando can only show a dumbfounded expression.

【Foolishness. For those of you who are present, do not worry. When you are in the other world your power will solidify and then afterward it cannot be stolen from you. As for what has occurred here, it is inexcusable.】

While listening to the maternal voice, Kurando's eyes made contact with the gym teacher that is close by; however, they only made an inappropriate chuckle and wryly smile before they vanished.
The remaining students and teachers had the same expression before they too disappeared.
When Kurando thought he would also be summoned as is, he became pessimistic.
From Sakuragaoka high school: 25 first-year students, 25 second-year students, 25 third-year students, 3 teachers, and 1 Janitor; 79 people in total were summoned from Earth to another world.

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【…… Ah, dear child. I am truly sorry.】

Kurando had yet to be spirited away.
He alone was left in the white space.

【There exist only one sword (power) per person. For that reason, I cannot give you another sword (power). And, once someone reaches the other world the sword (power) will attach to the soul and the ability cannot be recovered. Your sword was able to be stolen because while you are here your existence is not complete. Normally one wouldn't be able to steal another person's ability (sword).】

Kurando is somewhat satisfied with the explanation. In the first place, he never considered that someone would try to steal another's sword (ability). As the student that is at fault is nowhere to be found Kurando has no one to blame. Nevertheless, he couldn't stop himself from feeling down.

【They will be your only connection to one another in the unknown land that you'll be going to; it is best to not think such dangerous thoughts.】
The motherly voice prevents Kurando from saying anything more.
"Afterward, do not resent the world, and do not curse it."
In truth, the foolish child that stole the sword (ability) should be nearby.
However, in the other world, there is no way to keep Kurando away from them.
Once they became a residence of that world the power will be rightfully theirs.
As of now, it is already too late for they have become a resident of the other world.

Kurando had already decided.
He won't forgive them.

【……indeed, it is problematic.】

Although he hears the concerned voice, Kurando still couldn't stop thinking about what was stolen from him.
He couldn't stop himself from thinking about it.
Even though, it cannot be recovered.
That being the case Kurando wanted nothing to do with them.
In Japan he had failed to find proper employment; anyhow, Kurando could only think about how he wasn't able to find his place in society.

Kurando couldn't deny that he didn't put enough effort into it, but it would be wrong to say he didn't try.
He thought it was society's fault for requiring a certain amount of income. And, because of that, Kurando was never able to get past that step and get to where he wanted to be.
It is a mistake to call them Kurando's companions. He can no longer tolerate them and clearly he rejects them. Kurando can't complain even if he is right. Society was the one that drove him away.
And, that is why Kurando wants nothing to do with them.
Maybe, distancing himself from them isn't the correct way to go about it?
Perhaps, this is the reason why Kurando never successfully fit into society.
Although he belittles himself and plays the victim, Kurando is not completely innocent. That is merely a fact.
Because Kurando couldn't take being a security guard or a garbage collector, he chose to be a janitor.
A part-time contract employee at that.
And, that is why Kurando is thinking things over.
After the summoning, Kurando thought about putting distance between himself and them.
There is nothing to be lost since to them Kurando was simply their contact janitor. For Kurando there was no reason for him to tolerate staying with them.
His wage was low. There were no promotion options. And, there was no renewal for Kurando's contract.
Therefore, Kurando had no duty to them. There is no need for professionalism.
Nevertheless, they can't blame him because Kurando made sure to do his work properly.

【……then, what location should I switch your arrival to? Although I can't prevent the summoning, I can change your arrival location to somewhere different.】
As the god of the other world is still young their management is lenient
For that reason, it doesn't matter where Kurando arrivals after he is summoned.
It isn't that the god there is open-mind rather they just don't care.

Kurando's eyes sparkle upon hearing the proposal.
The god had read his mind and gave Kurando the answer he was searching for.

If possible Kurando wanted to go somewhere there are few people; he thought about someplace like a snowy mountain or desert would be good. Kurando is originally from an area with a cold climate. He also had fantasized about living in the desert. Although if it could not be there, he thought a place like something in between a frontier and a snowy mountain/ desert would be best.
The details are trivial but that is what Kurando wants.

【……I must warn you, in the other world magical beast and monsters run rampant; are you sure?】

Kurando will need food and water. He will also have to endure the climate and weather.
Kurando's decision seemed rushed. His pessimism is clouding his judgment.
His desire to distance himself from them is great enough that Kurando didn't think about the outcome.

【……one-year's-supply of food and water, a magic textbook containing the other world's general knowledge, and a knife? I cannot give you preferential treatment; therefore when you cross over to the other world, I will not be able to intervene.】

The way it was said, it sounded like a mother scolding a foolish child.
However, the foolish child simply nods.
Kurando appears delighted.

【I understand. Now, go forth.】

Kurando does a slight bow before vanishing in a dark light.

There is no one left in the blank space. The voice doesn't make a sound.

【I curse being a useless mother. Although it is an absurd world, I do not curse it. I pray that you all will not blame the other world. My you all be blessed.】

【Oh child who steals, you are still my child. I'm a foolish mother that still wishes that child good fortune. However, I do not know as to whether that child was able to harness the power of that sword. There truly is a web of fortune and misfortune intertwining together. Ah, I am indeed a foolish mother. I wish all my children good fortune.】

ToC –

Chapter 2: A Single Person Stands Alone

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２ーひとり、立つ

Chapter 2 – A Single Person Stands Alone

TL: xsomeblackjewx (Hokage Translations)
Editor/ Proofreader: uniquegasuki

Kurando noticed that he was somewhere else when the wind brushed by his cheek.
Due to the light shining in, Kurando realized that he is inside a cave .
Outside, a white and blue world extended as far as his eyes could see.
Kurando unintentionally rushes toward the entrance of the cave.

He wasn't concerned with the cold air that is pricking his skin and the freezing cold that is flowing into nostrils.
Before him, there is an endless sky and the peerless white mountains.
Kurando looks up towards the sun. He noticed something above him. Was it a large bird, or something else?
On the mountain, there is a white feline with a bizarrely long tail. It strides along the large rocks on the mountain.

Kurando's past obligations seemed to have slipped away.
He had a strong feeling that his hardships & inconveniences, his situation, his morals, the amount of money he earned, his prejudice, and even his self-respect had all been lost.

How long would he last?
He felt his body grow colder. Kurando still had on his janitor work clothes. A gray top and bottom, a long sleeved black v-neck shirt, the white towel around his

neck, a cheap analog wrist watch, and sturdy navy blue boots. These aren't something one wears while on a mountain.
While thinking it will be difficult to leave this place Kurando went back inside the cave.

On this way back he found a big moss-green rucksack lying in the passageway. Kurando recalls the provisions the mysterious voice had informed him of.
He remembered the scenery outside and the white space where he heard that mysterious voice. Only afterward, did Kurando understood that he had indeed traveled to an another world.

For the time being Kurando decided to sit down.
He casually puts his hand into the rucksack; it is empty.
As he thought there is no one-year's supply of water & food, no knife, and no magic textbook are inside the rucksack.
Kurando begins to think there is nothing inside.
No food, nothing edible?
Any rice, or hard biscuit? How about, square bread?
As he thought this, Kurando felt something long suddenly touch his hand.
He pulled out something similar to a loaf of french bread from the rucksack. On closer examination, the firmness is similar to toasted bread or a baked cookie.
Kurando surmises that this is a preserved ration.
「Is this what I'm supposed to eat?」(Kurando)
Kurando's slightly depressed voice echoed throughout the cave.
Afterward, he could take out as many rations as he wanted. Kurando was able to take out a barrel of water, a large knife and something resembling a magic textbook.

Kurando puts everything else away into the rucksack except the knife. He stood up and placed the rucksack over his shoulder.
The sunlight had dimmed.
Before it becomes completely dark outside Kurando needs to secure a bed or a place to sleep.
If he were to go to sleep now, the wind would disturb him while he slept.
He advanced deeper into the cave as he held the knife in his right-hand.
The width of the dim cave has enough size to fit two people. As for the height of

the cave, Kurando had an overhead margin of about 30 centimeters considering he is a little below 170 centimeters in height. The cave's walls didn't have moss growing on them; it made the cave appear newly made, and there was no other odor except for the smell of soil.
Kurando didn't notice anything else out of the ordinary.
Nevertheless, he proceeds forward as carefully as he could.
He, fortunately, arrived at the innermost part of the cave without encountering any other inhabitants.
At the end, there was only an empty space about the size of 6 Japanese tatami mats.
That night when the sunlight no longer entered the cave Kurando slept there.
He might have been defenseless at night, but it couldn't be helped as Kurando fell into a deep slumber.

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In the dimly lit cave, Kurando awoke to a thunderous roaring sound.
Although last night it was relatively cold, it is currently refreshingly chilly.
With sleepy eyes, Kurando staggers to stand up. Tempted by the faint light he made his way through the passageway.
From what he could see there is a blizzard occurring outside.
Nevertheless, the morning sunlight shines through.
The temperature had gone down the closer he got to the entrance of the cave; that advertently helped Kurando become wide awake.
After taking 10 step outside the cave the extreme cold made him turn around and head back inside.
Kurando thought he should quickly make his way back to the room inside the cave.
He needs to find a way to keep the inside of the cave warm. And, also procuring some sort of light source is necessary.
If Kurando didn't have a similar experience while living in Japan, he could possibly die.
He will die.
That much is for sure.
Kurando had to learn this the hard way.
Death and survival are merely a stone throw away.

Kurando had best realize this, or he will soon perish.

Kurando scurries back to the small room in the back of the cave; he reaches into the rucksack and took out the encyclopedia like magic textbook. He then eagerly flips through the pages.
Fortunately for Kurando the pages are made of thick high-quality paper.
Although, it is an encyclopedia there are no page numbers.
He had no problems reading the letters/ characters.
Kurando then began to study since his life depends on it.

– ToC –

Chapter 3: The Magical Beast ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３ー魔獣①

Chapter 3 – Magical Beast ①

TL: xsomeblackjewx (Hokage Translations)
Editor/ Proofreader: uniquegasuki

-550 days later-

Approximately 550 days had passed since Kurando began living in the cave.
He stares at the very-first-marking that he had etched (using a knife) on the cave's wall.
Kurando casually reached towards the magical beast. It has a white & black polka-dot pattern and it resembles a snow leopard. Using his finger he plays with its nose.
This magical beast is already the size of an adult snow leopard on Earth, but surprisingly it is far from reaching maturity.
The magical beast slightly opens its eyes when Kurando had poked its nose. With a dissatisfied expression it looks upon the rude person. In protest it hits Kurando using its tail that happens to be twice as long as its body.
The beast wraps its tail around Kurando's neck and back.
From there Kurando silently strokes the bottom of its neck.
Immediately after a sound similar to a cat's purr can be heard coming from its throat.
If someone saw this scene they would've found it ridiculous, but to them it was normal.
He named the magical beast that was encountered, Yukishiro (ゆきしろ). Finally instead of staying inside Kurando decide to embark from the cave.

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-550 days prior-

Because he didn't have to worry about food, it couldn't be helped that Kurando chooses to shut-himself-inside the cave to make mental and physical preparations prior to embarking from the cave.

The current him couldn't leave without anything disastrous happening to him. For a Japanese person such as Kurando, it wasn't difficult for him to imagine being powerless in a dangerous world. Kurando had chosen to concentrate on mastering the magic from the textbook. He also took the opportunity to improve his physical strength.

Mostly likely this world is based on one's magic skill and not so much on the technical abilities of one's body.

While there was still a dim light shining into the cave Kurando skimmed the textbook and decided to practice magic.

「Fire」(Kurando)

He faints.

Kurando got up. He recalled feeling a slight sharp pain throughout his whole body. The sun had already gone down. He couldn't see his wristwatch so he wasn't able to confirm the time.

Kurando sluggishly returns to the interior of the cave. He fell asleep while feeling pain throughout his body.

The moral of the story is "don't skim read".

The next morning Kurando awoke to the chilly air. Shortly after, he picks up the textbook.

Kurando learned his lesson. He felt a chill whenever he remembered the incident yesterday night.

Occasionally Kurando would take out some food to munch on as he read the table of contents, the prologue, and the 1st chapter (boys and girls coming of age) about the residents of this world. He reads the entire book. And, then re-reads it. Before once again practicing what he had learned.

「Small flame.」(Kurando)

This time around Kurando fainted from a headache.

The content of the textbook causes fainting and sharp pains. However, the headache themselves weren't much of a problem. Kurando disregards the fatigue and muscle pain; he uses the magic without hesitation.
To affect the outcome the intentions has to be made through the incantation. In addition, it is not possible to control the discharge of maryoku. Kurando had concluded that he faints during the phenomenon that occurs when maryoku is absorbed by the spirits in the surround air.
It could be said that a pool of maryoku is the surplus from a person's life force. Maryoku is the term used to describe the energy that fuels magic.
Kurando takes a deep breath; it almost had an effect on his inner life force. His body sensed an impending crisis. It intercepts the outside supply of maryoku and blocks it off. This causes him to faint. When the body wrongly assumes that there is an insufficient amount of lifeforce it will then increase one's life force pool.
The textbook acknowledges the existence of spirits and maryoku. It is said that spirits have existed in the air since ancient times. It also stated that Kurando's actions up until now aren't recommended.
Kurando felt his maryoku being sucked up by an invisible & formless plankton like thing. Those lifeforms gobbled up his maryoku like hungry pigeons gobbling up bird feed in a park. Feeling light headed, Kurando faints.

Kurando slowly gets up. This time, he felt pain and hears a slightly ringing in his ears.
He looks at his wristwatch. This time, a whole day did not elapse. Only 3 hours had passed since Kurando had fainted.
And once again,

「Small red flame.」(Kurando)

Before he fainted, Kurando felt a blast followed by heart pains.
Nevertheless, he repeated this process 10 more times. He fainted every time; however, the interval in which he stayed unconscious shortened each time.
Kurando dug a small hole in the middle of the room to be used as a makeshift fireplace. In that location is a small red fire. Kurando shakes his fist in triumphant.
This small fire is merely the concretization of the lowest-class of fire spirits; the

resident of this world commonly uses this to cooking their meals.
Kurando learned from this experience that spirits manifest themselves as a natural phenomenon in this world as long as they are provided with enough maryoku.
After his first successful use of magic Kurando began to immerse himself in learning magic.

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Every morning after Kurando got up, he would gaze outside to relax.
Afterwards, he would practice magic, and then faint.
This was Kurando's daily routine. Before he knew it the blizzard outside had already ended.
In total there are now 180 marks etched on the wall.
Every morning after he got up Kurando ate his meal before remove the earth cover that he made to close the cave's entrance way.
After Kurando had learned to materialize earth spirits whenever it was possible he would cover the cave's entrance before going to sleep.
But, by no means could one call it a cave lid.
It is dawn, the dazzlingly morning sunlight causes Kurando to squint.
This is his first time coming into contact with direct sunlight after quite a long time.
After opening his eyes he looks around the mountain side. As usual, Kurando sees a magical beast, resembling a snow leopard, laying on the wide rocky area while it bathes in the sunlight.
The magical beast slowly raises its head. Its fur from its head to its abdominal is pure white. Overall it looks like a snow leopard with a few less black spot.
From a considerable distance away it motionless stares at Kurando with its ash golden eyes. The beast's pride would not allow Kurando to disturbed it.
And thus, as if nothing happened the beast lays its head back down.
Kurando was mesmerized by the wild beast.
During those 180 days, the blizzard occasionally became calmer.
In the morning whenever Kurando looked outside he usually saw that magical beast laying there.
The first time he saw the beast his body stiffened. Kurando had thought he was going to be eaten. Several days passed. He had encountered it every day, but

nothing happened. The beast didn't seem to mind the company. Perhaps, it also had been watch Kurando all along?
And thus, the feeling seems mutual. They never approach one another.

There are various theories, but the magic textbook defines a magical beast as an animal that can use magic.
When an existence accumulates enough life force (life spirit) & other spirits it will result in the next generation becoming a race that can use magic.
Lifeforce is life spirit in itself. It resides in all living beings whether it is a tree, an insect, or even human. One could call it『a second heart or a second brain』.
From a broader perspective, one could define a magical beast as the reincarnation of a human soul.
However, there is no coexisting (mutual understanding) with a monster – when the amount of spirits it hold within it decreases that cause it to transform and then materialize. They are natural disasters; it's a universally enemy to all living beings – it is a different entity altogether.
Not every magical beast can be reasoned with. But, it is not-possible-at-all to reason with a monster.
In reality, Kurando and the snow leopard like magical beast had nonverbally come to a mutual understanding that they will not bother each other.
Perhaps, this was possible because Kurando doesn't have any means to attack it.
Kurando never did show any attempt to hunt the beast for its fur to keep himself warm from the cold. Although it was a guaranteed method to keep himself warm Kurando never considered it, not even for a second.

As a result of their mutual understand, Kurando looked forward to gazing at the magical beast outside the cave; to Kurando it was his entertainment for the day. Perhaps, he wanted to be in the presence of another living being other than himself?
For some time now, he wanted to approach the existence that caught his attention. Today, Kurando decided to go outside.

Kurando shivers. Did he fear going outside into the world? Or, was his shivering caused by the cold air?
He didn't have an answer to that question.
All he know is that he is going outside. And, that is all.

– ToC –

Chapter 4: The Magical Beast ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４ー魔獣②

Chapter 4 – Magical Beast ②

TL: xsomeblackjewx (Hokage Translations)
Editor/ Proofreader: uniquegasuki

Kurando is waist deep in snow.
As he tried to crawl away from the slanted surface, Kurando sighs. How many times now has he sigh?
He tries to not apply excessive force to his toes and heel. Although it looks pathetic Kurando freed himself from the snow by using a swimming motion. This was a technique he learned when he lived in a snowy region.
Kurando is still wearing the same clothes that he had on prior to being summoned. Around his neck is a towel. He has on a formal looking button-up work shirt and worn-out boots that have seen many days.
Kurando had covered himself in a coating made from fire spirit magic. Due to the coating, he didn't have to worry about the radiating cold air penetrating his work clothes. It also prevented the snow from getting inside his clothes.

In several areas along the mountain's slope, the snow had been brushed aside exposing rocks and bare earth.
On this mountain, in brief intervals, the wind from the snow storms would blow every few minutes. It could freely blow from any direction as the wind would alternate between the right and the left.
For that reason, on the snow covered field there are areas where the snow had been blown away. And, that is why there are areas with exposed rocks & bare earth here and there.

In some areas, the snow was unaffected by the wind and it managed to accumulate itself in between the gaps in the rocky terrain.
From the cave, Kurando had watched the blizzard undergo changes more frequently than an autumn sky. Kurando is unaware of the location of any protruding rocks, frozen soil, and other snow covered surfaces on the mountain. As a result, Kurando would unknowingly and indiscriminately stumble.

However, Kurando isn't worried about being completely surrounded by snow. Having originally come from a snowy region Kurando is more resistant to the snow's cold.
The real problem is what he saw.
Kurando senses he is being watched.
Whenever Kurando looks backwards, he sees that magical beast.
Every time Kurando struggles to move through the snow, the magical beast would look at him with pity. It had been observing Kurando ever since he took his first step out of the cave. Every time he stumbled Kurando sensed that the beast felt pity towards him.
And thus, Kurando began to grow angry.
At first being watched by the beast was stifling, but now he didn't think so.
Being frustrated Kurando looks over his shoulder; he sees the magical beast staring at him as it lays on the wide ledge.
It is quite a distance away. Kurando could have sworn that he saw the magical beast provocatively waving its tail at him.

Kurando chooses to ignore the magical beast's provocation. He sits down on a nearby rock to catch his breath. Kurando is viewing the kind of scenery one would see if they are high up in the mountains. He sees tall plants that are not found on Earth.
But, what stood out to him was the scarcity of wind spirits.
At this location, earth spirits and ice spirits are the most abundant. Among the population of spirits located here, there are a few lightning spirits and wind spirits, while there is only a hand full of fire spirits.
The magic textbook explains more about spirits. Earth spirits, water spirits, and wind spirits are the most commonly found in most general locations. In comparison, lightning spirits and fire spirits are less common. The textbook states that the relationship between water spirits and ice spirits is the exception

as they are similar. Kurando then understood why there were few wind spirit here.
There are few wind spirits present because this location is up in the mountains. In other word, the air here is thin because of the high elevation.
Kurando has not succumbed to altitude sickness. He is able to breathe the thin air up on the snowy mountain for long durations without fainting. Kurando is able to do all of this without having trained his body.
Because he wasn't out of breath Kurando considered it.
He remembers a situation similar to this one from the past. And thus, Kurando is confident that he will be able to escape the snow.
Kurando wanted to test something out. He tried jumping in place.
Kurando strikes the surface of the ground.
He tries sprinting.
As Kurando had surmised his physical abilities were enhanced. When he jumped Kurando had flown approximately 2 meters upwards. When he had punched the ground his fist left an indention on the surface. When he tried running Kurando had easily run up the slope.
For a short while, Kurando tilts his head as he thought about what caused the change in his body. He wanted to compare himself to someone else but there wasn't anyone else around. Kurando then abandons the thought.
He remembered that the mysterious voice had mentioned it would bless them a body that would be able to adapt upon their arrival to the other world. This must be that effect.
The effect had given Kurando's body the resilience it needed to adapt to the mountain's high attitude.
This time around Kurando walks more cautiously so he does get stuck in the snow again.

By taking large strides as he walked through the snow; somehow, Kurando will make it back to the cave. His shadow extends across the big slope.
His only achievement was that he didn't fall down in the snow.
As for food-related things, Kurando did see small animals and wild vegetation. Although, of the wild plants he saw Kurando wasn't sure which are edible.
Kurando only has enough food to last half a year or less. His future looks bleak.
But this was only the first day he attempted to leave. Kurando re-assures

himself.
After much hardship, Kurando finally reached his cave.
He wants to lay down. Kurando attempts to close the cave's entrance.

Who declared that they had a mutual agreement to not intervene with one another?
Who made the first move? Who decided it?
Kurando couldn't move a muscle. He wasn't able to draw the knife from his belt, and he couldn't say a word. Kurando wasn't even able to move a finger.
The large build with the white & black spotted pattern is together with Kurando in the cave. The situation is followed by a long silence.
He had wrongly assumed the distance between himself and the beast.
Kurando's face and the magical beast's face is side by side.

– ToC –

Chapter 5: The Magical Beast ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not a Hero

魔獣③
Chapter 5 – The Magical Beast ③

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: desmerit

The large figure in the entrance of the cave is dyed red by the evening sun. Nothing else can be seen.
Ash golden pupils gaze upon the eyes of the motionless Kurando.
Kurando couldn't avert his line of sight even if he wanted to.
Overwhelming fear dominates him.
He had become unreasonably frightened due to the ominous horror before him.
Kurando's imagination had far exceeded his perception of reality. His mind naturally gave in.
He feels that his inner strength is distant.
Furthermore, Kurando continues to stare into those eyes. He tries to muster strength into his body.
The magical beast is laughing.
Or, at least that is what he felt.
Kurando is helplessly pushed towards the wall near the cave's entrance.
Beyond its 'large build', Kurando found a spot that is unexpectedly soft. In all due respect, it felt like a cat purring.
Kurando passed through the entrance. The magical beast turns to the opposite direction and escapes into the innermost room of the cave.
He is unable to follow the retreating figure with his eyes.
Kurando felt that somehow his life was spared.

Before he noticed it the evening sun had already fallen. The dark spirits are wandering the world.
Kurando expels the dark spirits and converts them into light spirits; the cave's passageway is illuminated.
In the middle of the passageway, he arrives at the section where there are 2 holes that are opposite of one another.
One of the holes was his toilet. For 180 days, Kurando had used that hole and a cover which he made with earth spirit magic. The other hole which resembles a small room is something a magical beast had created inside the interior of the room.
Kurando couldn't even wryly smile when he saw the overwhelming difference between their magic craft.
It had only been 180 days since he had arrived as a human in this world. Or, at least that is what he wants to believe to comfort himself.
Likewise, it is ridiculous to make a comparison.
A magical beast leaves the small room that was made in the cave and quietly flew into the darkness on the opposite side.
The lamp made from the light spirits slightly exposes the creature figure; it is a giant flying squirrel.
It spreads the membrane in between its forearms and hind legs. The squirrel glides to the mountain overlooking this area; it blends in and then disappears.
Kuroudo is mesmerized by the fantasy scene and he felt dizzy.
He was frightened by the animal's long tail that he thought was the snow leopard's tail.
The magical beast quietly went down the cave.
It wrapped a lump of ice with its tail, and then threw it into the new room it had created.
Once more, it tries to glide in the air.
It repeats that process several times.
By observation, its concentration can be seen. It had gathered a few low-level wind spirits. And yet, its large build is able floating in the air; perhaps, it was unexpectedly desperate? Why jump, and glide? Such things Kurando does not know.
People can't fly.

It seems in this world that hasn't changed.
This is definitely a fact. With so few wind spirits it is more or less impossible to reach a high attitude.
With this particular tool, the magical beast is possibly trying to fly in the air.

Kurando made his way to his room to read the magic textbook.
He subconsciously did so.
When Kurando had returned to his room, he peeked into the small room. A great amount of ice is stored inside. The small room is white and feels chilly. Animals resembling a deer and a boar can be seen. The animals seem to be cryopreserved there.
After viewing it, Kurando didn't have anything else to say; so, he returns to his room.
He returns to the innermost part of the room where his rucksack is located.
From there, he thought about how to go about making a big change. Kurando already knew it was pointless to think about. He moves the rucksack to the corner of the room and opens the book from the rear side.

—*Meow, meow meow,*
To block out the cries, Kurando raised the book closer to his face.
The antagonistic 'large build' elegantly and seriously jumped on top of Kurando.
The magical beast had appeared. That face, the tail, and a playful purring; it is a kitten.
The tail is bizarrely long; it is likely that the kitten is the child of that magical beast. Kurando immediately understood.
Perhaps, it is suicidal to approach the child of a beast of prey.
Of course, Kurando knew this; more or less, he had decided not to approach it. It was the one who approached him.
Today various things had happened. The only one exhausted is Kurando. Once again, he casts his gaze onto the book.

He glanced at his wristwatch; tomorrow had already arrived.
Kurando took out his knife and etched one mark to clearly represent the next day. He cautiously put away the knife. Kurando bites into a fruit. While thinking it wasn't enough, he laid onto the ground.
Something fluffy rustles against him.

Kurando couldn’t move; by chance, something soft binds him.
He turns over. The light spirits were gone and the fire of the candle had extinguished.
The parent magical beast seems to stare at Kuroudo neck as if it wanted to bite into it. For a moment, the glint from its eyes could be seen through the darkness. But, then they immediately disappear.
As the way things were, a tail is entwined around his limbs. Despite that, it wasn’t uncomfortable.
What is its gender? Kurando is too tempted by drowsiness; he shuts his eyes and ignores the thought.
Kurando for the first time in a while, he falls asleep in a tender warmth of a bed.

– ToC –

Chapter 6: The Magical Beast ④

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

魔獣④
Chapter 6 – Magical Beast ④

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: desmerit

—Meow, meow, meow, meow
—Meow, meow, meow, meow
Kurando is awoken by a persistent cry.
The child magical beast is rubbing its face against Kurando's face. Since when did he fall asleep on the bare ground?
When Kurando got up, above all else, he notices the kitten dishearteningly walking out of the room.
The magical beast lays down on its stomach. It turns around.「*Meow, meow*」, it angrily howls at Kurando. Being puzzled, he tilts his head.
Did it want to go with him?
The parent magical beast is not around; is what he thought. Kurando swiftly puts his arms around the child magical beast's stomach and picks it up. He makes his way outside the cavern.
From inside the passageway, he already understood the situation outside.

The parent magical beast is sitting near the ridge outside of the cave.
At dawn, in the morning mist, a big tail is swaying about.
The big snow leopard's figure is concealed by the dense morning mist.
Kurando only sees the parent's back.
The last time he saw the parent's full figure it was suspended in the air.

Kurando approaches the exit of the cave. The parent magical beast turns to

faces his direction.
It stares at him.
The parent's eyes show affection.
Behind its large build, it wags its tail.
Henceforth, the parent magical beast continues to gaze at him.
Between them, none blinked.
For a moment, the parent magical beast growls and then turns around. It faced the mountain and glided through the air.
While it is out hunting, it's time for him to babysit; is what Kurando jokingly thought. In what way was he not perplexed? While placing his hand against the cave's wall, he gazes outside. Kurando smiles wryly at the thought of being a babysitter and an emergency lunch.
—MEOW
The child magical beast made a remarkably powerful cry and slipped through his arms. It walks to the wall of the cave.
Kurando reflexively extends his hand, but the child magical beast had chosen to sit alone near the cave's wall.

【*Gurraggh*】

Its howl passed through his ears and he could feel the pressure throughout his body.
Near the mountain, sounds of a battle can be heard.
In reaction to the howl, Kurando had braced himself by covering his head with his arms. When a pillar of fire was unleashed, he sees, a thousand-year-old tree go up in flames . The ledge where the parent magical beast had always lain for a moment it is engulfed by fire.
Compared to the other spirits a number of fire spirits were numerous. During his studies, Kurando had learned that a large quantity of maryoku is required to gather a lot of spirits. But, up until now, he never considered to what extent was needed.
With the exception of his own, this is the first time he has seen this world's magic.

—Meow
Kurando is taken aback by the child's resentful howl. It must have requested the

power of 10 wind spirits; he himself compensated for his lack of magic control by relying on his eyesight.

The pillar of fire starts to exhaust. And, 12 humans that are lined up in a ‘fan formation’ march through the smothered flames.
From the crumbling cliff and the unstable slope, spears and bows are being raised up. And, a wand is being prepared.
A man and a woman appear; their ears are tapered. Everywhere else, their equipment didn’t coordinate. A simple straight line is drawn on the center area of their white armor. From the waist to the chest everything in between is covered by their white armor. On the blade of their spears, there is a small engraving of a red horse and a white horse.
They are a special hunting force that is affiliated with the United Kingdom of Erurodoriana (エルロドリアナ). Of course, Kurando didn’t know this; chances are, he had looked it up in the magic textbook.

「It approaches.」(giant-man)
The foremost vanguard, a man, as a warning he readied his large shield.
For 3 meters, they traversed the slope while being open to attacks.
Without any change, the giant man in the middle of the formation relentlessly charges; his posture and line of sight never falter.
After the exchange, the giant-man merely stared at it. A normal person would be knocked away in the charge against the magical beast. Their opponent’s limbs are as solid as earth. Kurando could only gawk at the spectacle.

Bit by bit, it becomes clad in a snow coating; the once black-spotted patterns on its fur had disappeared.

「Uh-huh, an ice spirit augmentation has been confirming. Shoot the target.」
Between each interval, 3 beams of light are fired.
The parent magical beast rushes in; with its large build, it runs in a zigzag pattern.
Every time, it effortlessly avoided the barrage. The barrage ends.
It had avoided the barrage many times by merely twisting its body. The parent magical beast had instantly canceled out their attack. Three more beams draw near.
However, with unbelievable speed, it swings its claws and everything was

knocked down.
Blades of frost with great length had mown down everything in the surrounding lower area of the mountain. White particles gather in the air. Several people were preparing their shields; the sound of metallic clashing rings out. And, the aftermath looks as if the surface area had been shaved away.
The parent magical beast puts power into its hind legs and charges forward.
It directly targets their rear members. The cane wielder try's to prepare a magic incantation but is a tad slow.
Kurando who is watching the battle forgot to breathe.
The flame technique user honestly needed to catch their breath, but nevertheless, again and again, they wielded their cane and never once fell behind.
While in the middle of an incantation, through the white smoke, big claws swung down upon them.
The moment when the technique is activated, a sound similar to breaking glass is heard.
The flame user had defied the law of physics. When their magic barrier and their postures were broken, the users somehow managed to survive the moment of impact. It was as if they had foreseen it.
The spell, a dragon made of fire, divided into two and burst. There wasn't a moment for the beast to relax its guard; it couldn't afford to be careless.
Don't forget for a moment that person is a technique user; it would be foolish to underestimate them.
Once again at the foot of the technique user, a white claw is swung down.
「You're worthless, Iruniiku (イルニーク).」
There is a fierce smile on the giant man's face; the tip of his spear is stuck into the parent magical beast's side. And, he strikes the beast with his bare hands.
When it is invoked the magic withers away at Iruniiku's snow coating; the parent magical beast shakes free from the assault with a swipe of its claws, and it springs away.

– ToC –

Chapter 7: The Magical Beast ⑤

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Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

魔獣⑤
Chapter 7 – Magical Beast ⑤

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: desmerit

The child magical beast eyes chases after the form of its parent; it head frantically sways about.
It eagerly wants to join in.

Kurando also has a similar expression.
However, deep down, he thought it was impossible.
He did not understand the circumstances. And, not once did he consider throwing himself into the battle.
It was not a situation he understood; Kurando could merely lament in his helplessness.
Kurando is aware that he is feeling sympathy for the magical beast. But, his feelings are misplaced. There is a war between people and magical beasts. He fixed his gaze onto the scene once more; it was as if something important was stolen from him and he couldn't let it go.
Kurando knew he is feeling sympathy for the magical beast, but he wants to shout "why must they fight", and "stop fighting".
From yesterday evening leading up to today, Kurando couldn't comprehend what was going on. These series of events only added to his confusion. Kurando morals conflicted with his beliefs.
While looking for answers, his line of sight begins to wander.

When "Iruniiku" is shouted out, the parent magical beast had jumped away.

The rush attack mows down and freezes everything in range.
The giant man switched his attention to the group in white armor; he gives orders to those with bows to shoot a volley of arrows, those with an ax to sever its limbs, and the technique users to burn it with fire.
The scene unfolding is a perfect depiction of war.
Kurando wanted to think, ‘this is all a dream’.
It truly did look like an unreal dream.

—Meow!
The child magical beast cried out as if to cheer on the parent magical beast as its tail thrash about against Kurando’s arm. At least that is how Kurando views its behavior. The child didn’t notice Kurando’s existence.
This is not a dream.
No matter how much he wishes for it this crap-fest will continue.
From the garbage in Japan to the garbage here; nothing has changed this 『reality』 will continue.
It’s good to look at reality because only then will you truly understand things.
Kurando gazes at the back of the child magical beast before looking back towards the battle.

He feels the warmth of the sun and sees the endless blue sky stretching into the horizon.
The parent magical beast ‘Iruniiku’ breaks free from the ice but is then caught in their line of fire. Spears and arrows rain down; it narrowly slips through the volley. The parent knocks away the surrounding enemies who are wielding a shield and escapes harm.
However, it’s snow coating in places had dissolved and the re-coating effects had become weaken.
It tries to buy time for its snow coating to recharge. The parent decided its prey will be the red cane wielder. ‘Iruniiku’ the parent magical beast put power into its hind legs.
But, unexpectedly its hind legs had betrayed it; its thighs gave way, and it falls to the ground.

The giant man used a loud voice to motivate the surrounding people – whose posture had slack due to fatigue. His reason, to strike the parent magical beast

‘Iruniiku’ before it can get to its feet. While the beast is staggering, this is the best time to attack before it can withdraw.
At that time, before anyone became aware, the technique user was replaced. The red cane wielder had retreated and the other cane wielder picks up the slack. The giant man gave the signal; they threw their spears at the parent magical beast ‘Iruniiku’ and a cane is planted into the ground.

A pale violet light erupted.
The explosive screams of the thunder spirits can be heard.
Kurando could hear the echo as it made its way down the opposite side of the mountain.

Although, this place had become the field of the thunder spirits to cast the magic they didn’t make use of the thunder spirits that are fluttering around the vicinity.
There are thunder spirits in the cane.
Kurando can sense the thunder spirits in the field stirring about. However the attack merely delayed the judgment of the parent magical beast ‘Iruniiku’. The next action is quickly readied.
The pale violet lightning opens and is released. A single point breaks through the sphere. With its hind legs, it tries to kicks away from the earth’s surface.
But, stumble. It trips over its own legs.
Although its reflexive attempt was fruitless. The lightning had pierced it and then dissipated.

No one had dared to move until the light had become calm.
The technique user from moments ago clings onto one of the vanguards who is holding a shield. Iruniiku the parent magical beast stays vigilant.
In the smoky steam, the parent magical beast Iruniiku is standing there unmoving in an upright posture.
Slowly, it turns it’s head to face the mountain; it’s gaze seemed distance.

【*Guoooorah*】

With one mighty roar, the blue sky faded away.
Although Kurando was hesitant at first, he sympathy with the beast and determined that its voice is indeed valiant; his sorrow and bitterness left him.
Having used up the last of its strength the beast crumbles to the ground.

For just a bit, the giant-man admitted they were lucky.
This time, they were a little bit lucky. They were fortunate that the parent magical beast Iruniiku had stumbled in succession; it had stopped moving and gave them the opportunity for the lightning to pierce its body.
In the surrounding area, there are no more traces of thunder spirits. Perhaps, the magic cane had helplessly absorbed the thunder spirits. But before that, the snow coating that the parent used is a physics・magic barrier made of thin ice; or, at least that is what Kurando thought. He worried that they were going to tarnish Iruniiku's honor by stripping away its fur.
The 4 vanguard and the giant-man stood up and broke formation. Except for the giant-man, the other 7 were completely exhausted; they were barely able to stand.
If the 2 technique users had not switch out in intervals there could have been 1 or 2 losses. That is what Kurando believes.
It was quite possible for them to have been defeated. The giant man broadly smiles.

Before the sun had approached mid-day, 8 people had thought up a plan to divide the spoils.
A『Blizzard Leopard』, 『The White Phantom of Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) Mountain』 that was the name the Iruniiku goes by. In the past, it wasn't hunted. Perhaps because of its age being too young.
Or, perhaps the giant-man left it alone for so long for it to bear an offspring. Although, it is too soon to say for sure. While analyzing the technique user, Kurando mind begins to wander.
Kurando stops thinking about the giant-man. Iruniiku's corpse is being turned into a lump of ice.
「Alright, time to fly.」
Before Kurando knew it, the giant-man had removed the upper half of his cloth and had carried the frozen Iruniiku on his shoulders.
With his bulging muscles, he threw it in a straight line to the bottom of the mountain, towards the grassy plains.
The 4 technique users made their way through the mountain.
The object that was thrown, somehow, it had worked out smoothly.
3 days after there was a snow storm; it was like waking up to a bad dream. The

circumstance couldn’t be helped. They had to put into consideration the game they are carrying; they changed their marching speed so things would go according to schedule. But, not everyone thought the situation was a laughing matter. Their opinions varied.

Before the arrival of the snow storm, there were lots of ice spirits. The 4 skillful technique users had, of course, strengthen the giant man’s physical strength. The big man with his upper torso exposed smiled with a child-like expression.

– ToC –

Chapter 8: The Magical Beast ⑥

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

魔獣⑥
Chapter 8 – Magical Beast ⑥

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: desmerit

A brief roar echoes in the ravine.
What could it possibly be looking for?
It continues to stare at the location where its parent was last seen.

Kurando also thought about going over to that spot.
But, the both of them would fit in that small area.
Kurando springs back from the thought.
It is the law of nature. With his power alone it was hopeless. What could he have done? There was nothing that could've been done. In the first place, there wasn't a thing Kurando could've done.
Even now, with his current power, Kurando would die if he tries to cross the valley.
He had a reason to go, but the truth was uncomfortable. Kurando didn't want to just sit around and let evil go by.

In that spot the child magical beast falls to its back.
Kurando reflexively presents his hand, although, it held no conviction.
The child magical beast had become worn out and then slept; its tiny chest expands and contracts.
As he carries it back to the cave, Kurando embraces the child in his arms.
He looked for a place for it to lay down.
For the time being, Kurando takes off his coat and folds it before placing it over

the child's neck.
Next, Kurando looked for some food to fill his stomach.
He went to search in the room where the deer meat had been preserved. It had been three new moons since Kurando had last seen deer meat. As always, the room temperature had stayed low. He decided to dismantle the deer; it wasn't done so beforehand.

「Fire」
The light of day would end before the deer meat would be defrosted.
Even with a wide swing of a knife, the ice showed no signs of being cut.
The knife just isn't sharp enough.
Kurando suddenly remembers that fire spirits can form a coating that can protect against the cold.
He decided to channel maryoku to the knife with the intent to gather fire spirits.
The fire spirits that hover around the blade makes the knife warm to the touch.
Gradually the amount of maryoku in the knife is increased.
The knife had become red hot. Kurando tries cutting into it again; the ice melts away.
It was not a magic sword; simply put, magic was used to heat up the knife.
Unintentionally, Kurando had severed one of the deer's legs.
Kurando returns to his room, and with earth spirit magic he makes a depression in the ground. He then divides the deer's leg before putting it in.
Lastly, Kurando uses the fire spirits from the knife and starts a fireplace. He faints.

It is dangerous to leave a fire unattended.
His maryoku was not restored. At times, Kurando felt that his life force had been drained, but as he became used to it the pain diminished. It wasn't easy for him.
Not everyone from Earth can be an Olympic athlete. Kurando didn't need to be reminded of that bitterness.
Presently, he had become an ordinary person in this alternate world.

—Meow, meow, meow
Something soft and fluffy rubs against Kurando's face; he instantly wakes up.
The child magical beast's stomach is empty thus it persistently tried to wake up Kurando.

The smell of burnt food lingers in the air and black smoke had partially filled the room.
A few fire spirits can be seen around the fireplace. Kurando abruptly got up and briefly held the child.
There is charred residue on the deer meat. Despite the meat was not flipped every side of the meat is completely burnt. Perhaps, the fire spirits were being mischievous.
Or, perhaps the fire spirits were trying to help by covering the whole meat with fire.
Kurando did supply the maryoku to the fire spirits with the intent of cooking the meat. Anyways, the will of these spirits isn't something one can visual see. They cannot be controlled. These beings can even materialize in rooms that are locked airtight.
Coincidentally, there are fire spirits here in a place where they should be scarce.
The child magical beast cries, *"meow, meow"*, as it sits in place. Kurando picks up the knife.
Without taking the burnt outer layer into consideration, he cuts into the deer's leg.
Kurando shaves away at the burnt layer of residue. He then samples a thin slice of the meat beneath the burnt surface.
Although there is no salt, he enjoys the sensation of meat after a long time.
Disregarding the burnt smell, Kurando tears off a piece of the meat and feeds it to the child magical beast.
The child swallows the meat without tasting it.
It wants more meat rather than wanting to savor the taste.
The child magical beast can't live without eating meat.
It was commonplace for the parent magical beast to bring back meat to feed its young. This is what Kurando thought.
But, without the parent to bring meat to the child, the child will die.
The parent had entrusted the child to Kurando. Or, perhaps it wanted him to take pity on the child and adopt it.
He is unsure of the parent magical beast's true intention. In the first place, there might never have been any clear intentions. A beast is merely a beast.
Kurando thought about it for a little while.

He laid aside some meat for the child and briefly went outside.
Kurando immediately returned with a hand full of snow.
More fire spirits were used to strengthen the fire in the fireplace. From his rucksack, Kurando took out a loaf of french bread to eat with his meal. He melts the snow with the heated knife and dissolves it into water.
For the past 180 days, Kurando has been consuming the food given to him by the Goddess. He was surprised by the fact that it was quite nutritious. Kurando wouldn't have been able to survive without it; he is glad the food wasn't bad for his health.
He stirs the melted snow with his knife. Kurando then gently scooped out some water and cooled it down by fanning it with his hand before carrying it over to the child magical beast's mouth.
It made child-like drinking noises.
Somehow, it is similar to a suckling baby.
Kurando repeated the action many times.
Why was Kurando brought to this cave? Why did they sleep together? Why had before the parent died had it left its child meat? Why did it fight and die?
Kurando thought about these things.
To entrust?
To be given?
But, there is no mutual method to communicate between himself and the child.
There is integrity it seems, although, there are no responses.
For a very long time, Kurando thought about the uncertainty while looking for a solution. Without change, the child magical beast continues to sleep.
Kurando folds his work clothes and places it on top of the child. The act had helped him to cool down his emotions.
It had been a long time since he felt this relax; his inner self was satisfied.

After he had finished eating, Kurando felt sleepy. The cool breeze caused by the wind spirits and fire spirits sways back and forth.
Kurando rubs his eyes; he had carelessly forgotten to shut the cave's cover so he got up.
This evening there is no moon out. Only the fire of a lamp can be seen on the mountain side.
Once again, he thought a bit about the future. Kurando uses some maryoku to

call upon a few wind spirits.

– ToC –

Chapter 9: The Magical Beast ⑦

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

魔獣⑦
Chapter 9 – Magical Beast ⑦

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: desmerit

He leans his back against a rocky surface. The dried branches crackle in the bonfire surrounded by fire spirits.
Tonight is chilly. He is wrapped in a small blanket, and his big chest is deliberately lightly dressed. In his mouth, there is a 10-centimeter thin twig which he uses to puff smoke.
Those who had hunted the parent magical beast 'Iruniiku' had made camp.
「Makushiimu (マクシーム) -san, you don't seem cold.」(Akari)
「That is because the heat from the morning still remains.」(Makushiimu)
「I'm envious.」(Akari)
The giant man called Makushiimu flexes his muscles.
「Ah-haha, that's enough. Don't you see, I'm only a youthful girl?」(Akari)
The woman with short black hair looked dejected.
「Well, I do possess the Hero-sama's『spiritual gift』, ドゥフバダラ.」(Akari)
「Doufu, badara?」(Makushiimu)
「Yeah, a『divine protection』, a god's providence, one could say.」(Akari)
「How is it different from a God's blessing? Never mind, please pardon my rudeness Hero-sama.」(Makushiimu)
Half a year had passed since they had been summoned. Despite there being no Maou, all the hero-hero flattery had gotten annoying. No, they simply had given up too soon and the flattery had made them conceited. The other people who

had been summoned might have also become fed up, perhaps.
The black-haired girl giggles scornfully at the muscular mustache ‘durama’ man.
「I see. Anyhow, leaving aside the criticism of your Hero, do you know the value of the game? Is there anyone among the Hunter that would desire it?」(Akari)
The black-haired girl’s power is map marking.
She decided on the range. In her mind – a map manifested with her as the center point. The girl scans the area for anything with hostile intent. Her power allows her to view any red marks in real-time.
Anything suspicious in the map’s fixed range will be marked. However, at times its function is not accurate; in the grassy plain, it had marked a rabbit.
Furthermore, there is no distinction between the level of hostility. Even a minor grudge is marked similar to murderous intent.
The girl appeared downcasted and muttered a complaint.
「…… it’s regrettable, but it can’t be helped. I have burdened you.」(Akari)
She had no stamina, maryoku, or strength left to muster. Up until now, she had been carried on Makushiimu’s back.
「You understand, right? For Hunters, to help one another is the basic standard. We have successfully hunted the treasured Iruniiku without sustaining injuries. Now we can sleep in peace; there is no need to be anxious.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimumakes a serious expression.
「Akari, you may have needed assistance to make the journey back, but don’t worry. You’re still a child; therefore, whether it is you or another more, it won’t be a problem.」(Makushiimu)
The reception from the country that had summoned them was colder than they had thought. It became a complex situation for the girl.
This is what Makushiimu had assumed.
Akari, the summoned girl with black hair in embarrassment laughed snobbishly.
She fuels the fire spirits by tossing in another branch.
「…… regarding the magical beast, why hunt it?」(Akari)
Akari made a weak yawn. She is very sleepy.
「The White Phantom of Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) Mountain, was it? There were no rumors of it attacking people. And, there were no reports of its sighting. It has been several hundred odd years since anyone had tried to hunt it. I think it was the exception that our single group was allowed to try. Today, the hunt was

savagery; it wasn’t a laughing matter. I believe everyone else is also in agreement.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu threw in more firewood along with some fires spirits.
「Do you understand?」(Makushiimu)
He retrieves more firewood from behind him.
The fire spirits drift into the air as firewood is ignited.
「Sorry.」(Akari)
Akari uttered the words she had always practiced.
This might have been Makushiimu’s baseless assumption, talking.
「Is it possible you dislike waiting for death. You don’t seem to be the belligerent type.」(Makushiimu)
「Are you, ill?」(Makushiimu)
「Nope, it can’t be due to age. From what I have seen and heard, it may be something big. In intervals, during the battle you lost the strength in your legs.」(Makushiimu)
In terms of age, Akari is still young and inexperienced.
「If you look, you can see that am still young. Well, at least to the women in town-」(Makushiimu)
「Ah-haha, enough already.」(Akari)
「…… you do realize that the kingdom’s ruling class can challenge the Hunters at any time, right.」(Akari)
They drew the lottery.
This time, in the case of the Hero, the kingdom’s government had merely twisted the Association’s arm.
「Hurry up, and go to sleep. Tomorrow we have to get up early.」(Makushiimu)
It had been decided that they will leave at daybreak.
「What about watch duty? ……」(Akari)
「I’m going to bed; I want to rub against some bare skin.」(Makushiimu)
「Tsk, you sexual harassing old man.」(Akari)
Akari in anger wraps herself in a blanket and lays down.
Makushiimu’s vulgar laughter echoes in the cold night.

Makushiimu puts down the lamp and gives a brief reply.
From the beginning, he had sensed the influence of the wind spirits.

Hey, are you listening?

It’s red, isn’t it?

Yes.

Leave it be.

Akari ignored his voice and it brought her peace of mind.

At first, she thought the hard ground wasn’t so bad.

The next morning the Hunters departed without incident.

Kurando woke up in the middle of the night, but there was no one to see off.

– ToC –

Chapter 10: Hunter ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１０ーハンター①

Chapter 10 – Hunter ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

During the subsiding of the second blizzard, Kurando had located the Hunters.

Behind the unknown hunter's there is a girl with black hair.

Kurando had cross paths with a person who had been summoned along with him; however, the person left without them meeting one another. Because, he had been looking after the child magical beast, he never left the cave.
He cooked it meals, he took it to the bathroom, and he bathes it. Kurando's daily life was hectic and busy.
Half of the one-year food supply was used up during the 180 days that was spent living in the cave; during Kurando's frequent fainting spells. The other half disappeared into the child magical beast's stomach.
The parent magical beast had left Kurando the meat of its prey. Whether it was intention or spiteful depends on the details; well, it's better than trying to survive on wild grass. Kurando had grown tired of his rations. (T/N: don't know don't care)

Thinking it would be inconvenient to not know, Kurando picks up the child magical beast and holds it up. Although it is rude, he looks at its nether region to confirm whether it is male or female.
There doesn't seem to be anything openly dangling from there. In the first place is there suppose to be something dangling from here. Is it hidden inside? Should

he turn it around, or check the insides? It didn't seem to resemble any mammal that lives on Earth.
A few times the child magical beast got angry.
In the end, whether it is male of female doesn't matter. Its name will be 『Yukishiro』. In the beginning, Kurando had called it Shiro and then Shirokuro.
And at last, Kurando's face is slapped by Yukishiro's tail. The thick-skin Kurando had forgotten that the child has high intelligence, and he felt its retribution.
The child magical beast that Kurando named Yukishiro moments ago has turned away from him.

And like that time passed by. Gradually, the snow and the cold wind occasionally had a warm breeze within.
Yukishiro is standing on the cliff near the edge of the mountain. Its monochrome tail is swaying about from the ledge of the cliff. In the next moment, it leaps down.
90 days had passed. Yukishiro has grown to be as big as a medium size dog.
Apart from the size, it's the spitting image of the parent magical beast.
Its disposition is also similar.
Presently, Yukishiro is glazing at Kurando with a compassionate expression.
Kurando stumbles on the slope. He looks down upon the cliff that the parent magical beast had once stood on.
But, even so, there is no point in regretting it now.
Whether it was being able to distinguish edible plants from poisonous ones, hunting small animals, or running away from foreign invaders; Yukishiro was able to immediately adapt.
Yukishiro used its tail to inform Kurando when he had harvested any poisonous plants or poisonous mushrooms. Kurando could feel the sympathy from his small animal companion. When they had gotten stuck in a big spider web, they somehow were able to escape. Although, Yukishiro had persistently wagged its tail in protest. It goes without saying that Kurando would have been the things feed if not for Yukishiro.
It is written in the magic textbook that magical beast are naturally able to perceive the spirits and the flow of maryoku. Although it was not taught by its parent, Yukishiro naturally has the ability and knowledge to sacavage・hunt・fight/flee.

On the mountain, in Kurando daily life, he was able to experience various thing. From small animals to vegetation, he saw many things.

They would search around and then return back home; they often repeated this process. Once again, the blizzard is coming.
The number of knife marks etched on the wall reads 400. Kurando has now been here for over a year. He is currently, 26 years old.
Kurando estimates that it takes roughly 400 days to complete one cycle of all the seasons. The coldest period, the blizzard, happens on the 180th day. 90 days later, the snow melts and the air becomes warm. Around 40 days after, the animals are the most active, and it is warm. And then, during the following 90 days, it will gradually become colder. So, that is roughly 400 days. (T/N: 180d + 90d + 40d + 90d = 400)

From the remains of a deer, Kurando had crafted a 3 tipped brush to comb Yukishiro. As he brushes Yukishiro from top to bottom, a sweeping noise can be heard.
Yukishiro's fur had become tattered from all of its hunting trips.
Kurando runs his fingers through the parts that weren't fully brushed. He thought it was a shame to not fix them, but Yukishiro is satisfied with how it is; and, it pesters Kurando to stop.
When Yukishiro had returned to the cave, it jumped into the hole that Kurando had dug to be a bath. It had urged Kurando to hurry up, so, it could start its bath.
Snow was diligently carried to the bath and hot water was boiled with the fire spirits. After Yukishiro was done with its bath, as it dries, it was Kurando's job to comb Yukishiro.
In this season, Kurando is unable to assist with hunting and gathering. The work is being entrusted to Yukishiro. It makes one wonder, is Kurando protecting Yukishiro, or is he the one who is being safeguarded?

The number of rooms had increased.
In the furthermost room, Kurando had made another room. This room serves as his workroom and training room. The room is just wide enough for Kurando to spread out both his arms and still have a little wiggle space. Nearby, there is an oblong entrance that was unusually placed; there is enough space for a single

arrow to pass through.
In Kurando's spot, this area use to be where the parent magical beast had left its prey. Kurando is now making use of this place. This is where Kurando brings the things that he gathers. And, it is also where he fiddles with stuff, such as magic practice and muscle training.
For a janitor, Kurando is fairly dexterous with his hands. Although, the person himself doesn't think he is handy. He is good enough to be a carpenter. Well, it is hard to say as to whether the oddly shaped brush that he made could be called a comb.

And so begins the delicate matter of a season changing as the snowy mountain days are coming to an end; the second coldest period is over.
As he had guessed, it took 180 days for the season to end. During those days, Kurando had been digging a linear tunnel.
And so, at dawn, both Kurando and Yukishiro exited the cave.
Yukishiro is now about the size of a snow leopard found on Earth. Utilizing its agility it moves over toward a cliff that is 10 meters away.
It had detected the presences of Hunters.
During the coldest period, Kurando and Yukishiro had been anxiously waiting to learn about the circumstances surrounding the subjugation of the parent magical beast. And, they had held discussions about when the next subjugation will occur.
Although, Yukishiro could only nod or shake its head while listening to Kurando talk.

However, Yukishiro and Kurando never thought about revenge.
They thought about places to hide as to not be found, and they thought about places they can run away to.
Similar to hide-and-seek.
However, they must definitely not be found.

They could run away from this location, but Yukishiro dislikes the idea.
It is different for Yukishiro because it is impossible for it to leave this mountain and not be found out.
So it is aware of that fact?
Kurando must decide Yukishiro's fate.

It is a good idea for them to escape from here, and then return back one year later.
Kurando thought that if it is 3 days prior to the coldest period, then perhaps the hunter will give up and leave.
Also, in 3 days, the giant thorny and venomous spider will swagger around the mountain. Once before, Kurando had gotten caught in its spiderweb. And, ever since, he never thought about going back to its location ever again.
If the giant spider that easily rivals the parent magical beast were to be around, the hunters would have no choice but to leave. And, perhaps the hunter will avoid making any further actions.
The time limit is 3 days.
The irregular existence, Yukishiro, should not be discovered. Kurando must hide Yukishiro. And, naturally, he should also hide. But, he must not allow the hunter to get close to Yukishiro.
Because their target is Yukishiro.
Although, it is alright for Kurando to be discovered because he is human.
Well, more or less, it should be okay.

As Kurando thinks, his eyes become narrow.
Far below the ledge, he caught sight of the group of hunters.
Among them, he sees the black-haired girl, Akari.
Beginning from Yukishiro's prior detection of the hunters, Kurando wasn't pleased.

On the steep ravine in the valley, there is a group of people.
There are 15 of them.
Among them, their physical conditions vary. But, will it be in Kurando's favor?
They are heading to Yukishiro's location. At best, they will be here in one day.
Kurando frowns at the urgent and troublesome situation.
He doesn't know the details, but among the group, there is one with a search ability. It is one of the people that had been summoned alongside Kurando.
Yukishiro and Kurando are finished if they are discovered.
Understanding the circumstances, Yukishiro did not roar.

Chapter 11: Hunter ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１１ーハンター②
Chapter 11 – Hunter ②

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The group of hunters had exited the valley and they had made camp in the forest on the low plains. At dawn, during the morning mist, they will depart for Yukishiro's location.
While ignoring the small amounts of snow that had piled up the group made-up of 15 people pushed though the sharp shrubs and trees.
The obvious change in vegetation is comparable to the drastic change in the complexion of the group of hunters.
This territory is already a『nightmare』for them. When they sleep, they can't let their guard down. And, naturally, the hunters must always be cautious while staying on the mountain. The group seems agitated.
In actuality, the『hero』girl and the group of hunters didn't appear confident. It is possible that Kurando doesn't need to worry about the girl's search ability. After declaring it nothing else happened; so, perhaps Kurando has nothing to worry about.
The real concern is the girl's involvement with the hunter, Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi (ザウル・ドミトール・ブラゴイ).

The man declares something without concern about his surrounds,「cowardly Roorana(s) (ローラナ)」. On this hunting trip, the man acted as if Akari wasn't present.
After a 50 year interval, the Roorana royal family had forcefully demanded that

the hunters subjugation the white phantom. Having not been hunted the game had grown big. As a result, the『hero』and the hunters who had participated in the hunt had gain renown throughout the continent.
Anyhow, Kurando is unpleased with Zauru.

Zauru is from Dorugan (ドルガン) in the united kingdom of Erurodoriana's (エルロドリアナ); he is a former aristocrat of Dorugan, and he is the 3rd son of a member of the Dorugan parliament. Zauru is hostile to the central government that is located in Roorana. It is said that people from Dorugan have a certain temperament.
Roorana, Dorugan, Buruoruda (イングート), Inguuto (イングート), and Ado・Arania (アド・アラニア); these are the 5 regions that make up the united kingdom of Erurodoriana for the past 200 years since its unification. The central government was established in the nearby region, Roorana.
However, after this long period of time, the Dorugan's characteristic hasn't changed. Even now, the place is fuming.
It can all be dated back to 1,000 years worth of reasons; so, to sum up, everything into a few words,『they just hate the people of Roorana』.

Roorana had ruined Dorugan's honor by successfully subjugating the white phantom that the hunters of Dorugan had left unhunted for 50 years.
The Dorugan parliament was in an uproar.
Dorugan boasted about their numerous frontier borders, and how their hunters are continuing to battle the magical beast and the other monsters; in addition, they boast about how Roorana is lagging behind them.
And thus, the parliament unanimously consented.

『If they are able to encounter something like Iruniiku (イルニーク), then the commotion will die down. With their bright idea, they borrowed the『hero-sama's』ability to go hunting. There were no objects to borrowing Roorana's『hero』.』

Thus, they barged into the central government located in Roorana.
And, they harassed the『hero』.
It is a fact that the royal family had forced the central government to issue the subjugation. As a result, it tarnished Dorugan's honor. Therefore, the central government had no choice but to meet Dorugan's demands. They did so to

cover-up their blunder. It was also to prevent the relationship with Dorugan from deteriorating any further; as well as, to stop Dorugan from separating from the state and declaring its independence.
Although the central government thought it was merely hunting, they were still reluctant to accept it.
And thus, the Dorugan parliament used the central government's authority to take control of the villages near the base of the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountains. Dorugan then declared the subjugation of the white phantom.

At that time, the boasting Zauru was selected to undertake the hunt.
In reality, the law had no influence in the villages. He had knocked on the doors of many renowned hunters, but they all refused him. Those hunters called Zauru a fool as they laughed in his face.

Zauru isn't pleased and he began to regret borrowing the ability of a hero with unknown origins.
This all happened because the hunters of Dorugan wanted to hunt the white phantom. That is the only reason.
In annoyance, Zauru scowls at Akari.

Akari doesn't say anything. She simply walks in silence as these hunters have nothing to do with her. Although, Akari did find the circumstances tedious.
When the school was summoned the reception was cold. She had later learned that the summoning was carried out due to the royal family's selfish whim. And, that the government was dysfunctional. After a year had passed, Akari had become exhausted.
She simply didn't care about the hunt.

The mood cased disorder among the hunters.
It was as expected.
The white beast can out maneuver them from among the shrubs and trees.
As the hunters look around their surrounding they can't help but find it disorientating.
The hunters didn't consider that the white phantom would appear from above.
In truth, the hunters never even noticed. Furthermore, up until now, the girl named Akari was unable to detect nor notice the beast that is the size of a wolf.
And once again, the white beast vanishes among the shrubs and trees.

But, among them, Zauru saw the beast that had jumped through the trees.
Zauru himself is a fairly skilled hunter.

「Hey, what's that?」(Zauru)
Not long after, Zauru gave chase.
「Wait——」(Akari)
「Shut up and make yourself useful.」(Zauru)
Akari's has lost control of the situation.
There was no reaction from her ability, but Zauru doesn't listen to Akari. He only thought about taking advantage of the encounter.
The other hunters are hesitant to chase after their reckless employer.
Akari reluctantly follows after them.

Zauru caught up to Iruniiku and saw the beast go near the big cliff. He praises himself.
He didn't bother dealing with the other hunters who are perplexed.
Zauru disregards the state of affairs and he gives the signal to commence an all-out-attack.
Although the group of hunters is bewildered by their employer, Zauru, they prepare their bows and wands.

Finally, Akari has caught up to them; she tries to take control of the situation——

——Zauru ignores her; he had already given the signal to attack.
In the direction that the wind is blowing, a barrage of arrows and lightning are shot at Iruniiku.
It's a direct hit.
Feeling sure of himself Zauru smiled.
In the next moment, that smile froze.
It was most definitely a direct hit.
However, Iruniiku had already moved away from the cliff.
The attack had exploded near the『cliff』where a giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku (アトラバシク), was hibernating.
Iruniiku is nowhere to be found.

The giant spider's eight-silver-eyes shown a『nightmarish』luster.
Its large fangs move; with a *"gagishiri"* sound, cone-shaped objects appears

from its legs and body.

Originally to hunt a giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku, one would need to prepare the necessary equipment beforehand. However, they have not. Their only choice is to『runaway』.
However, in this location only Zauru is present. His fate is decided.
Above them is a giant spider.
For the hunter, this is a『nightmare』.
Zauru shoots an arrow.
He didn't consider retreating.
Besides, to catch Iruniiku the other hunter's firepower is necessary.
Furthermore, they can't stop their advance just yet.
Neither arrow, magic, nor anything else was able to pass through the earth coating that is covering the spider's body.
The spider didn't chase after its prey; instead, it lays its web on the surface of the ground to ensnare its prey.
The Atorabashiku leaves its only real threat for last; in sequence, it prepares to attack the front and then the rear with petrifaction.

The unnatural movements of the Atorabashiku change.
It cancels its petrification attack.
In angry, the giant spider moves closer to one of the hunters.
And thus, the hunters formation collapsed.

Akari who couldn't control the situation could only watch.
From out of nowhere a red mark appears on Akari's mental map.
Originally it wasn't a red mark.
Iruniiku was close by, but it wasn't marked as red.
The marking ability is more or less unreliable. It is better to depend on one's own eyesight than to rely on the red marking system.

And thus,
Among the crowd, Akari is knocked down to the ground.
A hunter who is running away hears the sounds of something being gnawed on.

「I want to go home……」(Akari)

Akari's consciousness begins to slip away.

The giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku's eight-eyes discovers Akari.

Akari resigns to her fate.

During the commotion no one noticed Akari being abducted. Yukishiro held Akari by the nape of her neck and carried her off towards the mountain. (T/N: good snow leopard)

– ToC –

Chapter 12: Hunter ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１２ーハンター③

Chapter 12 – Hunter ③

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

At first it was a good idea to entice the spider.

One of their options was to abandon their territory and make a complete escape from the snowy mountain. Or, they could try to make the opponent withdraw.

For Akari's sake, Kurando chooses the second option.

Yukishiro dislikes the idea. Although, Kurando is worried about her.

He doesn't yet know the true nature of magic. Perhaps by seizing the unique magic it might hasten his understanding of magic.

Kurando had previously acknowledged the power of spirit magic. Ordinary spirits that are used in spirit magic far outclasses the capabilities of simple firepower.

This world is presently in favor autonomous magic.

Spirit magic uses the power of spirits to『intervene』in this world. In comparison, autonomous magic uses one's own power to『trick』the world.

Anyways, magic is the complex use of maryoku.

In spirit magic, only maryoku is used to convey the effect/intent through an incantation. With autonomous magic, the incantation, the wand, and all the equipment are required.

Spirit magic uses maryoku the most efficiently while autonomous magic requires 100 more maryoku. And, to use autonomous magic one needs a lot of maryoku

and must be highly skilled. The difference in requirement between the two is great.
It is easy to learn the basics of spirit magic. Everyone has the aptitude to learn it. On the other hand, autonomous magic is expensive to learn. To be able to use it one must pay for the equipment and other services. Not everyone has the time and patients to acquire it. Therefore, it is not available for most people.
Spirit magic summons water itself while with autonomous magic something like 『water arrow』 is brought forth but then disappears after use.

In every category, spirit magic is superior to autonomous magic. Although, for the last 200 years autonomous magic has overshadowed spirit magic. For that reason, even in this era, the practice continues and just won't go away. In recent years autonomous magic has begun to permanent among the public.

Autonomous magic is able to 『deceive』 this world.
Because Kurando is not from this world he was able to tell the difference between spirit magic and autonomous magic. Autonomous magic is able to temporarily ignores the natural laws of this world.
As an example in Kurando's world, the famous 『magic arrow』 is something that can't be done with spirit magic.
Because maryoku can't consume spirits. It is something that can't be done.
This supernatural like power was discovered long ago by the aristocrats and royals. Spirit magic was then established.
However, in the present day, these former nobles are in hiding. They only passing on their knowledge to selected magician among their descendants.
To say that spirit magic is an unknown existent isn't an over exaggeration. (T/N: random explanation about magic)

Kurando reads this information in the magic textbook to stop himself from worrying about the outcome of the battle.
The second option was a failure.
In silence, he returns to the cave.

He couldn't think of any other clever schemes.
Kurando stops thinking about it.
There is nothing he can do now; anyway, there wasn't anything for Kurando to do.

He can’t control the outcome.
To act recklessly will only result in death……
Genuine hunters…… are caught in the trap. Not too long ago Yukishiro’s existence was exposed.
It doesn’t matter. The plan’s success is more important.
But, was it worth comprising Yukishiro’s existence?
No, but maybe……
Kurando is lost in thought; his mind wanders around in circles. And, suddenly he stops.
Everything had already come together.

He controls his thoughts and stops thinking about killing.
That is something Kurando must not do.

He stops himself from thinking that way.
Kurando’s second option fell apart. Why wasn’t he able to realize something so simple?

He didn’t take another person’s life into consideration.
With an Earthling nearby, Kurando chooses to defend his morals and ethics.
Despite having run away from it all, despite not associating with this world’s society, and despite him looking away from morals/ ethics before.
In the first place, the hunter came here to hunt. Kurando had resolved himself to attack them. But, he won’t use excessive self-defense.
Kurando didn’t feel indebted to the parent magical beast and Yukishiro, but he is grateful to them.
He wanted to survive on the snowy mountain on his own.
If that were to have happened, he would have been lonely and the time he had spent together with them would have never happened.
Unexpectedly, Kurando didn’t think things turned out so bad.
Although his companion isn’t human by being together Kurando had found the thing he was missing. It became something he didn’t want to let go.
Kurando doesn’t hate people. He is more human than most.

Although, Humans and magical beast can’t be compared to one another.
Kurando hasn’t sided with the magical beast either.
He just doesn’t want to leave『Yukishiro’s』side.

「Instigate the spider.」(Kurando)
Yukishiro gradually became hungry and began to pout.
It is likely that the spider is Yukijiro's (Iruniiku) hunting rival.
They are fellow predators of from the same hierarchy on the food pyramid. Well, perhaps so.
Yukishiro swings its tail against Kurando as it pleads from food.

The following day Yukishiro easily abducts Akari.
In the end, it brought back Akari. Despite its reluctance, before its departure, Yukishiro did as Kurando had insisted.
「She survived.」(Kurando)
Kurando takes Akari on his shoulder. He briskly pets Yukishiro's head. Yukishiro swiftly slips away.
With its tail raised Yukishiro bashfully makes its way into the cave.

Akari awakens and raises her body.
The sun had already set. There are numerous fire spirits fluttering around.
Kurando sends fire spirits over to Akari's direction. As usual, Kurando is brushing Yukishiro.
「…… am I still alive?」(Akari)
「Huh? Ah, you seem alive.」(Kurando)
Upon hearing an unexpected voice Akari turns her head to Kurando's direction.
「……huh? Why am I here, what about the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku)… is that Iruniiku…… who are you?」(Akari)
She is confused.
When Yukishiro heard Akari's voice it hissed and glared at her. The section of fur Kurando was brushing stood up on end. Yukishiro doesn't have any sympathy for Akari in the slightest.
「Ahh……J, janitor-san?」(Akari)
Surprisingly, Akari had remembered who Kurando was.
Kurando has been bathing, and he does shave using a knife. He kept his hair trim with a knife. It has been quite a long time since they had left Japan, and it has been equally as long since he thought about his life in Japan.

Kurando of course remembers. They didn't know one another's name as they were merely acquaintances that greeted one another in the morning.
However, that is all he remembers.
Akari was not killed by the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku). She had failed her hunter acquaintances, and for that reason, Kurando did not want to ignore her.

And thus, Kurando first meeting with another summon person was while he is brushing Yukishiro. Yukishiro loudly yawns.

– ToC –

Chapter 13: Akari ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１３ーアカリ①

Chapter 13 – Akari ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Kurando gave a simple explanation.

Yukijiro rescued her from the spider's attack.

He didn't lie to her; Kurando gave her a brief and vague explanation.

「Is that so, thank you very much.」(Akari)

Akari who understood the state of affairs gave an honest bow.

In one year's time, Akari had somewhat matured.

Akari's short black hair suits her slender build. Her upfront expression hasn't changed even after the summoning. But, she appears tired from the hardships she had faced.

A pelt covers her white chest, and another covers her lower waist. During the retreat, her luggage was discarded. Akari's bow and her large knife were confiscated by Kurando.

「Uh, what will you do from here on?」(Kurando)

「I plan on leaving tomorrow morning. May I please stay the night?」(Akari)

Kurando creates an earth pot as he listens to her talk. He prepared meat and herbs to add to the meal that is being made.

After the water is poured in a lid is placed on the earthenware pot.

Akari watched in amazement.

「How did you learn magic?」(Akari)

「Huh, umm, from a textbook.」(Kurando)

「From a textbook?」(Akari)
Being puzzled Akari tilts her head. She waits for the stew to finish cooking.
Kurando explains why he is here.

After the explanation ends Akari has an apologetic expression.
「……s, sorry.」(Akari)
「Hmm~?」(Kurando)

「Janitor-san, you might not know this world's society but this investigation wasn't requested from the higher-ups.」(Akari)
「Ah, I see? well, leaving that matter aside, it is too troublesome to look into.」(Kurando)
「By the way, Janitor-san your power was stolen by a child from my class……」(Akari)
「That has nothing to do with you.」(Kurando)
「……it's Akari. 藤城 (ふじしろ), 明里 (アカリ). My name is Akari・Fujishiro.」(Akari)
「So then, Akari-san.」(Kurando)
「You don't have to use honorific. Janitor-san what is your name……」(Akari)
「Umm, ah~, Hasebe (支部, はせべ) Kurando (蔵人, くらんど), but I'm alright with being called Janitor-san. There is no need for Akari to apologize.」(Kurando)
Akari still had an expression filled with regret.
The room is dyed light-orange by the fire spirit heating the pot.
After a while Akari suddenly said something.
「In this world, there are currently 78 heroes.」(Akari)
Kurando silently listens to her as he stirs the stew with a knife.

According to Akari, there are now 78『heroes』. Three classes of 25 students were summoned, that makes 75 students plus 3 teachers.
Kurando is not included.
The 79th person that was summoned, Kurando the janitor, is a taboo topic among the others. In this world, his existence is a secret among them.
Among those who were summoned, Kurando's existence perplex them. They chose to forget him. And thus as time passed bringing up Kurando existence became unamusing.
However, the passing of time didn't dispel their internal dilemma that they felt. In this world, they had to utilize their ability without delay. And thus, the value of

an ability was made known.
As the saying goes, every person from themselves.
It is true that a student had stolen Kurando's ability.
From among the people that were summoned, there was a boy with two『divine blessings』(providence). During the first month of the summoning, he subjugated a man-eating bird. Some time afterward, the male student annihilated a slave trade organization. He found a cure to the disease known as the 'princess of darkness'. And, he also improved the cafeteria of the people who were summoned from the school.
The person in question is currently a hunter, a researcher, a pioneer, and he lives his life as an adventurer. He cheats the country's domestic affairs. From among the people that were summoned, he by far had made the most accomplishments. He stands out from the rest, and he has the greatest influence among those who were summoned.
The male student has gained the most influence and has become the group's leader. No one can argue with him about having stolen another person's ability. There is no benefit from confronting him and causing a scandal. There are only demerits.
The biggest reason for why Akari left has to do with the group not looking for a method to『returning to japan』.
From among those summoned, no one criticizes him. And, no one voiced their opinion.
Somehow, it felt wrong and that is why Akari accepted Makushiimu's invitation. There were no objections. She was able to get Hayato's (ハヤト) approval.
Afterward, Akari found herself wasting time toying with the country's politics. She couldn't help but find the situation disagreeable. (T/N: oh, the horrors of bad writing)

Akari talked as if she were spewing out a speech.
「Phew, umm, was that too much?」(Akari)
Akari waits for a reply. Kurando brought out a boorishly made chopstick and bowl created from a fallen tree.
「An untactful hero setup. It sounds depressing, and it sure is a pain for adults to taking responsibility for students. I will be troubled if the hero comes here. Therefore, will you keep it a secret?」(Kurando)

In the bowl, Akari receives some stew to eat.
「Here, eat it before it gets cold. Don't you want to get bigger?」(Kurando)
Kurando places a crudely made bowl in front of Yukishiro.
Yukishiro skillfully licked the bowl like an afternoon snack.
「……not small at all.」(Kurando)
Kurando makes a dumbfounded noise, every time Akari asked for a refill.
「It's delicious, but is this stew or is it curry?」(Akari)
「It's curry flavored stew.」(Kurando)
「……which is it?」(Akari)
It seems that the herbs that were added gave the stew a curry-like a flavor.
「Umm, well, it just happened to turn out this way.」(Kurando)
「Eh, was it an experiment?」(Akari)
「……do not mind it.」(Kurando)
「I see. What ingredients did you use in the stew? Do those types of things exist here?」(Akari)
「Umm, when I was brought here I received a supply of food; from among the supplies there was a dissolvable package. Apparently it's quite nourish. I have been feeding some to Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
Akari stops eating and looks away from her bowl. She sees Yukishiro passionately eating stew.
「Yukishiro, do you mean Iruniiku?」(Akari)
「Yeah. It is the child of the bigger Iruniiku that you and your comrades hunted.」(Kurando)
Akari's face turned pale and she hung her head in shame.
「Akari it's nothing you have to worry about. You have already explain the circumstances. Although, I don't understand the intentions of the other hunters that were involved.」(Kurando)
「……why did you save me? I'm the parent magical beast's enemy. In the first place, didn't Iruniiku intentionally instigate the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku)?」(Akari)
Kurando thought for a long time before answering.
Should he tell the truth, or should he deceive her?
「Who knows.」(Kurando)
「……huh? Then how did you know that we came here to hunt a large Iruniiku?」

(Akari)
「I'd watched your group, and I had been listening to your conversations.」
(Kurando)
Kurando makes a cheerful laugh.
「Eh, then, even from last year——」(Akari)
「——I knew that next year someone would come here.」(Kurando)
Akari furrows her eyebrows.
「……Janitor-san did you instigate the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku)?」
(Akari)
「What do you think?」(Kurando)
「……why do something like that?」(Akari)
Kurando makes a genuinely cheerful expression.
He doesn't understand why he just did.
「If I had enticed it, would there be a problem?」(Kurando)
Akari is bewildered by the unexpected response. She retorts back in anger.
「That『nightmare』, and that petrifaction, it's a complete——」(Akari)
「——perfect murder?」(Kurando)
「Y, yes.」(Akari)
「Well, it's murder is it not? Did you not come here with the intent to kill?」
(Kurando)
Akari became speechless.
She had seen the Janitor-san that shouldn't be here.

– ToC –

Chapter 14: Akari ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

Chapter 14 – Akari ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

「Well, hypothetically that is if I did entice the spider.」(Kurando)

Akari is stunned and she is unable to say anything further.

「First off, Yukishiro and I are equal comrades…… well, it is more like I'm relying on Yukishiro to bring me food.」(Kurando)

To put it nicely, everything started from the time your companions hunted the parent magical beast Iruniiku; about one year ago.

「And that was what had happened to me since being summoned here.」(Kurando)

From a downward stare at her empty bowl, Akari raises her head.

「It was rather unfortunate. Although, I do have regrets, it's unrelated…」(Kurando)

Kurando continues to play with the sleepy Yukishiro's tail.

「Well, and that was how Yukishiro and I became bound together. 」(Kurando)

Kurando notices Akari's puzzled expression, but he continues to tease the prideful and sleepy Yukishiro because it is fun. (T/N: note the following dialogues are gibberish.)

「This may be from the perspective of someone from Japan, but. Ah, sorry the conversation had dragged on. Well, listen. Perhaps, it is better to run away than be entangled in other people's affairs. Although, to lead others is quite difficult, isn't it?」(Kurando)

「For an incapable person, they would already have failed.」(Kurando)

Without stopping Kurando continues to talk. Perhaps after one and a half year had passed he was thirsting for a chance to speak to someone.
「When one takes the lead they have responsibilities, and people won't come to help.」(Kurando)
「One has no choice but to use violence in retaliation. If several people are killed and there is moderate damage the authorities should be notified. Don't you agree it's a difficult choice? Would one say it's revenge?」(Kurando)
「Do you understand what it means for a leader to take responsibility for a failure?」(Kurando)
「If by some chance someone died, would it be excessive self-defense?」(Kurando)
「Well, for me it would be『checkmate』.」(Kurando)
「For me then, I would have no choice but to kill. It can't be helped if someone passes away. Revenge would only be a pretense. Anyways, it can't be helped if someone dies.」(Kurando)
「It's unreasonable, ——*phew*.」(Kurando)
Kurando gave Yukishiro's tail one final poked before leaving it alone. Yukishiro lays on its chest and closes its eyes. Kurando wryly smiles as there is nothing more to distract him.
「Therefore, isn't alright to entice the spider, well, to kill, the hunter that have returned?」(Kurando)
For some reason Akari became agitated.
She did not misinterpret the things Kurando had said. Because Akari had become used to the suggestive manner in which Makushiimu (マクシーム) spoke.
As the saying goes, the predator must prepare to be the prey. And, don't forget it.
Although the meaning can be reverse, it still means the same thing.
However, the matter, this time, was different. The predator, the spider, was incited to kill people.
「*Ahaha*, excuse me. I'll get to the point. In other words, I didn't want to die.」(Kurando)
「Why would you die…… couldn't you have just run away?」(Akari)
「Well, fighting and hunting are two different things. Thus, it is a bad idea for Yukishiro to fight a battle. And more so, Yukishiro dislikes running away.」

(Kurando)
「What sort of relationship——」(Akari)
「——let's say, a person who is a thief invades your home. Would you hand over your possessions?」(Kurando)
「DID YOU DECIDE TO FIGHT BACK?」(Akari)
Akari talks back in anger.
「Umm, around here there is only Yukishiro and I. I should have told you so from the start. I apologize if there was a misunderstanding. Pardon me for sounding suspicious, it has been a while since I last talked with another human being.」(Kurando)
The statement sounded reasonable enough.
After the statement, there was a feeling of uneasiness between Akari and Kurando.
When Kurando talked, he seemed indifferent towards the life and death of other people——
——Akari became puzzled by how Kurando was acting; it irritated her, and then she realized it.
Because, although it was indirectly Kurando had mentioned killing people. And that had disgusted her.
Akari had heard only a very few reports of a summoned person killing someone.
An imperial guard had told her that this world is not similar to the European Middle Ages. Although it is somewhat different this world can be described as in between the industrial revolution and World War II. But, in place of machines, there is magic.
In other words, even within the remote frontier a person's life and death aren't taken lightly.
There are laws, and the state is democratic.
「Why must you kill people for the sake of a magical beast?」(Akari)
There is a fine line between a human and a magical beast; it is also the same in Japan.

「Because there was only Yukishiro around?」(Kurando)

Kurando said something careless.
「I'm nothing more than an ordinary man from Japan. Do you have any complaints about that? After I was summoned, some brat stole my special

power. And then, I was dropped off in the middle of a snowy mountain; I was by myself, alone. Not to mention, I didn't have a say in the matter. Although, I don't regret it I had to bear with the isolation.」(Kurando)
「Would not it have been better to descend to civilization?」(Akari)
「It is not like I'm afraid of strangers. Well, I was trying to express gratitude toward Iruniiku's offspring, Yukishiro, who has been looking after me. Without Yukishiro I might have faced a crisis. Quite pathetic, right? Therefore, do you understand why I had to kill them?」(Kurando)
Kurando pats the back of Yukishiro who is sleeping.
「But, if someone finds out……」(Akari)
「I might be killed. That is why it can't be leaked.」(Kurando)
Akari averts her gaze by looking down.
「……then, what's going to happen to me? To keep it a secret, will you have me killed?」(Akari)

Kurando sends fire spirits over to the downcasted Akari to observe her more clearly.
Akari is seventeen years old. For a child, she is quite impertinent.
Although Kurando understands that, he can't help but find it absurd.
Would it have been better if he never met this person; even though, she is but a child?

He never considered the possibility.
Kurando no longer thought of this person as merely a child.
In this world they are on equal footing, or perhaps their position is reverse.

In other words, Kurando was careless.
He let his guard down because the company is a fellow summoned person. And, Kurando had thought of the person as a child.
Originally, he was supposed to conceal Yukishiro's existence and demand that Akari keep their existence a secret to repaying the favor. And lastly, he wanted to learn any information as to whether they can return to their home world or not.
No, it would have been a better idea to save her from the spider and then leave her at the foot of the mountain. That would have been the most appropriate course of action.
It might have been better for Akari to not learn the details of the massacre. And

then, Kurando should have vigilantly and cautiously try to stay undetected.
In this world, he should have blended in and live a quiet life.
Kurando was lured by temptation and was baited. He is disgusted by his former Japanese self.
Even though, he was not supposed to be.

To kill or not。。。
It would be unfavorable for Kurando if Akari informs the central government.
And, Dorugan can't be reasoned with.
In addition, it is unknown as to whether or not Akari will sell-out Janitor-san.
It is shocking that he is the mastermind behind the spider's attack. However, Kurando isn't supposed to exist and none among those who were summoned have the right to judge him.
No one had helped him and nor does Kurando want their help.
It would be ungrateful of Akari if she doesn't repay the favor from when Yukishiro had saved her from the spider.
And thus, even if Kurando was behind the incident, she was still saved by the mastermind.
Sooner or later, Kurando and Yukishiro might have had to kill someone.
If one thinks about its such things are bound to happen. And thus, it would be truly frightening if one committed such acts without even realizing it.
Well, maybe killing is this world can't be helped?
As from the fluffy white beast, it wouldn't be able to win the war. (T/N: the battles against the government)
Kurando who thinks about such things can only chuckle.

– ToC –

Chapter 15: Akari ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１５ーアカリ③

Chapter 15 – Akari ③

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Akari (アカリ) awakens to a chilly breeze against her cheek.
She lifts her body up and wraps her arms around her chest.
Last night she slept on the bare ground; her body feels stiff.
She looks around. Neither Kurando, the Iruniiku (イルニーク) called Yukijiro, nor the spider is around.
The entranceway is open.
From the entrance the morning rays are streaming inside.

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Afterwards, Akari giggled. Kurando shrugged his shoulders and then said,
「I won't have you killed. Just be silent, it's already getting dark. It would be better off if you go back tomorrow.」(Kurando)
「……I might not be able to lie.」(Akari)
「If the time ever comes, I will give myself up. I know the reality; I won't do anything foolish. Although, when that time comes I would rather runway.」(Kurando)
The manner in which Kurando spoke sounded as if he had given up.
「It's late; so, I'm going to sleep now. It is rather regretful that there is no bedding. You'll have to sleep on the ground.」(Kurando)
After saying so, the sounds of sleeping can be heard.
Akari was unsatisfied with not being able to loosen the strap around her chest.

She thought about various things and eventually the fatigue got to her. Akari closed her eyes and fell asleep.

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Akari fastens her armor as she prepares to depart. Kurando sits cross-legged facing towards the mountain. Yukishiro is nowhere to be seen.
「You're up. Sorry, there is nothing I can do for you.」(Kurando)
Kurando sat there cross-leg and didn't turn around.
「It's no problem, I'm use to camping outside.」(Akari)
「Hmm, camping? More or less, you've got a bit of experience.」(Kurando)
「Ah, ya, yeah, umm.」(Akari)
Akari became flustered; Kurando clears his throat.
「……on occasion you like to tease others, huh.」(Akari)
Akari has an unamused expression. Kurando stands up. He gives Akari back her bow and knife.
「There aren't any other people around these parts. Well, there was…… at least there will be one animal around.」(Kurando)
Akari is given back her bow and knife.
「When will you descend down the mountain?」(Akari)
「I might never descend from the mountain, but maybe when or if I have a craving for salt or soy sauce?」(Kurando)
「Well, there is salt. But, as for soy sauce, unfortunately, there is none around these parts.」(Akari)
Kurando receives a great shock of disappointment.
「There is the metropolis of Dorugan (ドルガン), and the major city of Roorana (ローラナ). Afterall, around here is the frontier region. By the way rice in this world is similar to a rooted vegetable. However, it is long and slender; and it has a strong taste.」(Akari)
There is also pilaf and paella but likewise they are long and narrow. Kurando and Akari wryly similes at the thought of these ingredients.
Even after half a year had passed they couldn't forget the taste of eating rice.
「Do you have any money?」(Akari)
Upon hear those words Kurando once again felt pathetic. (T/N: r.o.f.l.o.l.)
「Do you mean things such as gold and silver coins? Is magic used to craft legitimate paper and coin currency?」(Kurando)

Each autonomous nation uses magic to manufacture their own currency.
Although in the remote frontier there is also bartering; Akari felt she was being mocked so she stayed silent about this fact.
She informs Kurando about this world's currency.
「……may I come back to visit you? Although, I do not know when I will be able to.」(Akari)
Her low voice didn't match up with her intention.
「Why would you willing want to comeback to this desolate place?」(Kurando)
「Well, there is the thing about magic and……」(Akari)
「……it's not as if you will be able to come here whenever you want to.」(Kurando)
Akari has a disappointed expression.
「You won't be able to come here during the blizzard season. Because, it last for 3 days.」(Kurando)
「The blizzard will alway come. Is that your『special ability』?」(Akari)
「……huh, is it alright for me to expose this?」(Kurando)
Akari expression changes.
It is reasonable enough. She is also concealing her ability. They both became silent.
「No, it's fine. I'll explain.」(Kurando)
「Wait a moment——」(Akari)
Contrary to Kurando efforts to get the conversation over with, Akari herself informs him of her『imperfect mapping and radar ability』.
After the explanation, Akari suddenly realized it.
Kurando knew of her ability; although he wasn't fully aware of the details.
Akari recalls the conversation they had.

『「……huh? Then how is it you know that we came to hunt a big Iruniiku??」(Akari)
「I'd watched your group, and I had been listening to your conversations.」(Kurando)
Kurando cheerfully laughs and smiles.
「Eh, then, even from last year——」(Akari)
「——I knew that in the following year someone would come here again.」(Kurando)』

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-Akari's perspective-

That night after we had hunted Iruniiku during our conversation there surely was the presence of wind spirits. Although the circumstances around the matter was unknown, I felt as if someone was spying on us.

In other words.

If I wasn't there, Kurando wouldn't have to have killed anyone. And, him and Iruniiku might have just stayed hidden on the mountain. Because, the attack by the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku) was instigated because of me.

I have a search ability; therefore, I have the ability to pin-point Iruniiku's location.

But, the question is "why did Kurando come into contact with me"?

The most reasonable explanation is that we were summoned alongside one another.

It would've been better for them if we didn't meet. Was it because Kurando was longing to have contact with another person?

Kurando doesn't seem to be the type of person who enjoys murdering other people, because he seems indifferent towards others.

Besides, I'm glossing over the inhuman thing I have done.

Perhaps, I don't want to admit it to myself.

After being summoned to this world I became a hunter. I have killed magical beast with my own hands. It is possible I would also kill humans.

Have I become a different person without realizing it?

If I was never attacked by the giant thorny spider, I might have never thought about it.

Before my eyes, I have seen hunters that are like myself die.

I know I'm carrying the burden of their death, but I don't feel depressed.

However, I can only think that I'm glad to be alive, and that I want to live.

He is also alive because he also wants to live.

That's right. If I think of it as Kurando killing them for the sake of his survival it doesn't seem as unpleasant.

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From the expression on her face it seems Akari had come to an understanding.

「And now we're even, okay. Please keep my『divine power's』effect a secret, alright?」(Akari)
Seeing Kurando's flabbergasted made Akari feel a bit of accomplishment.
「That sure is a triumphant expression…… well, do as you please as long as no one troublesome comes here.」(Kurando)
「Will do, but I do have one request……」(Akari)
「What is it……」(Kurando)
Akari continues to speak while disregarding Kurando who has a feed-up expression.
「Yukishiro-san? Umm, you see, will it show me the way to the bottom?」(Akari)
The next instant is followed by chilly silence.
Kurando thought she is an idiot and stared at her coldly. Akari doesn't falter.
「……ask Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
「But, magical beast can't talk.」(Akari)
「It's intelligent so it will understand you. When it disagrees it will slap you with its tail.」(Kurando)
Will it slap Akari with its tail? ……probably so. Kurando quietly mutters to himself.

「Here goes. Has the giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku, left this area?」(Akari)
Before Kurando was aware of it they had descend down the slope to where Akari's moss green rucksack and other equipment is located.
「Ah, please wait a moment」(Akari)
In this fictional like setting a flustered Akari follows after them.

On Akari's request Yukishiro takes her to where the route merge. As if it was natural Yukishiro slaps her in the face with its tail multiple times.

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After having seen Akari laughing, Kurando had already decided.
Because he had decided on it from the beginning.
There is no way he could kill her.
Should he had let her return, or should he had confine her?
However, he was unable to confine her. A search party will come. There is no mistaken that a uninvited『hero』might come; therefore, it is a possibility that the fellow, Hayato (ハヤト), might come here.

Based on the story from Akari, that person sounds like a cheat user. Having a guy like that come to this mountain gives Kurando an unpleasant feeling.
When will this nightmare end, and when will the good times begin. Kurando thought about what he would do if that person ever appears; should he greet them or kick them off a cliff?
Kurando and Yukishiro decide to wait patiently for Akari's return before descending down the mountain. At last Kurando was able to see the expression of a high school student.
However, it doesn't change the fact that she had hunted the child magical beast's parent.
And thus, Yukishiro looks irritated. It swings its tail about even without anything being around it. How many days now had Kurando been thinking about things?
Although it isn't noticeable, only Kurando was able to understand Yukishiro's concern.

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And just like that the giant spider, Atorabashiku, left the domain.
The trackless trail veers off into both the right and the left; it was a course not known even to the local hunters. The sun was still in the sky when Akari made her descent.
Akari calculated that if she hurried she would be able to return to the village by the end of today.
「If you do return here, do not use this route. Well, if you use your radar you will understand why. It will be spider territory. The routes alters based on the change of the vegetation. Because, I have Yukishiro I'm somehow able to manage.」(Kurando)
「It is regretful to say, but my map can't keep records. It will be difficult to use the same path again.」(Akari)
It seems that Yukishiro is reluctant to reply.
「……we'll see, umm, you see. It's getting dark.」(Kurando)
Kurando abruptly laughed, and Akari who is watching him, bows.
「Thank you very much.」(Akari)
「Those were the circumstances.」(Kurando)
「Well, that is all I wanted to say.」(Akari)
After saying what she needed to Akari turns around and descends down the

mountain.

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By the time Akari had descended down the mountain the day was near its end. As she neared the village it became red.

In her head, the village is bright red.

– ToC –

Chapter 16: Akari ④

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１６ーアカリ④

Chapter 16 – Akari ④

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Around this time the villagers should be asleep. Several shops had hung up lit lamps.

Only the voices of drunks can be heard coming from the tavern.

Kurando is hiding in the shadows.

In this world, he would stand out since he is dressed in worn out work clothes.

From the scarce information Akari gave him, he didn't find anything wrong with the village.

Kurando thought he had successfully infiltrated this village. He diligently looked around the tavern.

Two days after Akari had left, Kurando saw the tracks that Akari took through the giant spider's territory.

After he had adventured to the base of the mountain alone, Kurando came to the conclusion that he had been overly worried about the giant spider's territory for nothing. Who does that spider thinks it is?

On his way back to the cave after having successfully hunted a rabbit Kurando stumbled upon Akari lying collapsed on the ground.

The situation was literally two rabbits with one stone. And thus, Yukishiro carried the rabbit and Kurando carried Akari.

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Afterward, she was laid down in the cave. Akari awoke after a while. She then informed him bits and pieces of what had happened.
Although, there wasn't much to tell.
She had descended to the village at the foot of the mountain. The first reaction was that everything was dyed bright red.
There was smoke rising from the village; although, there were no cries of confusion there was a monster attack but it wasn't a great stampede of magical beasts.
When Kurando saw the village at the foot of the mountain, "he though not everything is red". Although the inn and the merchant's store is red; the gate, the hunter association branch, the village chief's house, and all the houses are not.
When Akari told Kurando her side of the story, he listened to her in silence.
After Akari finished talking she covered her face with her hands.
Because she couldn't stop herself from weeping.
It was a normal reaction. Everything was marked (red) as an enemy. After they were summoned everyday was something unusual and the drastic change had taken its toll on her.
In a matter of a few days the once friendly villagers are all marked as red. She couldn't bear it; Akari became horrified and saddened with grief.
「Well, now does seem like a good opportunity. I'll go see how things stand.」(Kurando)
She wiped away her tears and raised her head.
「……do you have any identification papers?」(Akari)
「Of course not.」(Kurando)
「You shouldn't! It's okay, you will only cause a ruckus. Somehow I will find a way back to Roorana.」(Akari)
「Is Roorana also marked red?」(Kurando)
「……」(Akari)
While being completely unconcerned Kurando ignored Akari's warning.

After arguing back and forth, Akari was entrusted to Yukishiro and Kurando descended down the mountain.
He began his descent while the sun was still up. It was night by the time Kurando arrived near the bottom. The season here compared to the season in Japan is

very different. It took about a day to reach the village at the foot of the mountain. Kurando was unconcern about comparing himself to Yukishiro and its mobility.
After being summoned here Kurando's body had adapted to living on the snowy mountain. For the past 580th days the way he had lived on this snowy mountain is similar to the training of an ascetic monk. Gradually he started to deviate towards being a resident of this world.

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The blue moonlight made the place appears similar to an ancient fortress.
As Kurando observers around he feels intimidated by his surroundings.
The village is encircled by a moat and earth wall.
The moat isn't vast but it is spacious enough for a small boat to ferry a person across. The earth wall is roughly the height of an ordinary person.
The amount of repairs made to the earth wall gave off the impression that it had been in service for many years.
That much can be said for sure.
Akari had already informed Kurando of the village's lookouts and protective magic.
A magic barrier or also known as a protective autonomous magic is something countries had kept hidden. Nowadays, there is an generic magic barrier being sold on the market. Although it is of a degraded quality the price is fairly expensive.

Dorugan need not rely on a magic barrier; all of its citizens can fight.
They pride themselves on the fact that their people had fought and continue to fight monsters and magical beast since long ago to the present day.
Every time the Dorugan parliament brought up the subject, although everyone knew the truth, they politely stayed quiet.
In reality, Dorugan just didn't have any money.
Their capital city doesn't have a barrier; therefore, they needed some other means to grantee their honor. Also, they don't have surplus money to buy one for a frontier region.

Kurando easily infiltrated the village.
To help himself over the wall, he used earth spirit magic to made a small scaffold

.

He could always say that a monster or a magical beast had dug it up. Kurando had to make the dirt scaffold if he wanted to get inside the village.
And thus, as Akari had suggested Kurando started his search at the tavern.

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After Akari went missing Makushiimu (マクシーム) drunk the night away. Because Akari was lent out to Dorugan (ドルガン) as a result of a political transaction, he couldn't stop it.
Ever since Akari left for the hunt and never returned Makushiimu had been at the village near the foot of Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountains.
Although it was too late, he regretted handing over the custody of Akari to the old noble hunters.
Makushiimu question himself as to why he didn't search for her sooner?
He had drank 10 bottles of cheap liquor and in his drunk state Makushiimu violently smashes the bottle on the table.
The bottle looks tiny in comparison to the giant sized man.
Although, it seems the situation wasn't at the point where it needed to be stopped. The scattered group of customers held their breath and did not concern themselves with the large man.
Almost as soon as the bottle hit against the table a plain slip of paper was smoothly passed to Makushiimu.
He tries to pick up the piece of paper.
However, the slip of paper is sudden snatched up.
「This looks interesting?」(hooligan)
Makushiimu glares at the man; the man slightly flinches.
Makushiimu is surrounded by old-noble hunters. They are hooligans one could find anywhere; however, Makushiimu only observes them.
「……ehhh, I don't think so.」(hooligan)
The hooligan that is holding the slip of paper tilts his head.
「I only see a whore's invitation…… and there is no other information.」(hooligan)
As they let the slip of paper flutter in the air, the hooligans exit the tavern.

「Shit.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu strikes his hand on the table; the loud impact causes the bottle to

fall onto the floor.
He stood up and left several bills on the desk before leaving the tavern.
After the storm only silence is left in the tavern.

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Makushiimu goes back to the inn and receives his room key. He returns to his room. Without turning on the light he sits on the bed.
「……a criminal, huh?」(Makushiimu)
In a quiet voice he mutters to himself in the darkness.
「It can't be, I don't believe it.」(Makushiimu)
He pretended to not know and lays down.
「Why am I doubting it now?」(Makushiimu)
「The writing on the slip of paper was identical to Akari's handwriting down to the simplest character.」(Makushiimu)
「Ah, I see. Then,」(Makushiimu)
「Surely, Akari is waiting for me. However, I can't trust the person who is using the dark spirit magic in this village. Show yourself.」(Makushiimu)

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Kurando used dark spirit magic to cloak himself in the night's darkness.
With the assistance of dark spirit magic, it is possible to disappear into the darkness by manipulating shadows. However, the darkness and shadow cannot be used for attacking nor can it be used to store items or create a curse.
Dark spirit magic is literally the manipulation of『darkness and shadow』.
It is useless to normal people. Because dark spirit magic is mostly used by thieves and assassins it has a bad public image. And thus, Kurando was thought to be a bottom feeder by Makushiimu.
Makushiimu had taken notice of Kurando ever since they were at the tavern.
Wind spirit magic was used to disguise the letter as a prostitute's invitation for Makushiimu; it was done to avoid raising suspicion at the tavern.
As planned the eyewitnesses who saw the slip of paper didn't recognize the hidden message. There was no need to worry about being detected when using small amounts of dark spirit magic at night.
By the time Makushiimu stood up the shadow had dispersed. No evidence was left.

Now all that was left was to follow Makushiimu to the inn.
Kurando had observed Makushiimu leaving the tavern; he didn't have time to search the inn. Kurando wanted to avoid being attacked while he was at the inn in Makushiimu's room; therefore, he used the shadows in a roundabout way.

Kurando has doubt about this world as things are quite complicated.
While thinking about it Kurando dispels his cloak of darkness.

– ToC –

Chapter 17: Akari ⑤

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１７ーアカリ⑤
Chapter 17 – Akari ⑤

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

A man emerges from the corner of the dark room.
The man takes only one step forward, and the blue moonlight reveals his figure.

The man has messy black hair and brown eyes with a vigilant gaze. He is wearing unknown worn out clothes and shoes that had been mend numerous times.
His physique could be considered medium in size or slightly petite; although, his robust torso compensates for his small stature. The man’s forearms are especially well developed.
Despite his vagrant like appears, the man doesn’t smell and he is neatly trimmed.

Makushiimu doesn’t recognize the man’s complexion.
Makushiimu (マクシーム) isn’t aware of which tribe, or ethnic group the man is from; nor does he know the man’s home country and nationality.
The person’s『ethnicity』is different from the people who live in the area southeast of the continent. And, the man doesn’t appear to one of the mountain folks.
On the other hand, the man doesn’t seem like a town dweller or a vagrant. The man’s presence is different than that of a refugee.
It could be said that the man was a criminal but he doesn’t seem to be one.
Makushiimu stares at Kurando.
Kurando merely shrugs his shoulders.

「Will this do? I don’t have much time, you see?」(Kurando)
「Is Akari safe?」(Makushiimu)
「Quiet safe. She is ready to leave anytime.」(Kurando)
「Phew, I see……」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu had perceived that Akari’s ability had labeled the villagers as her enemy. It seems that Makushiimu is aware of Akari’s ability.
「So, who are you?」(Kurando)
「……tsk, you’re quite impudent. What’s your name?」(Makushiimu)
「John (ジョン).」(Kurando)
「I hate fake names. Nevermind, my name is Makushiimu. As you can see, I am a descendant of the giant race. In the worst case scenario if you betray me, ——I will kill you.」(Makushiimu)
The man from the giant race directs overwhelming blood thirst towards Kurando.

Makushiimu stays seated on the bed. In perspective Makushiimu is twice the size of Kurando; he is wearing a dull colored shirt and baggy trousers; he has a mustache and combed down red hair. With his blue eyes, Makushiimu stares at Kurando.
Although it is not that era, Makushiimu would most likely be the splitting image of Hercules (ヘラクレス).

This was the first time that Kurando felt blood thirst from a person; he couldn’t stop his own body from breaking out into a cold sweat.
However, Kurando wasn’t allowed to express his anxiety on his face; if he did, Kurando would’ve lost his composer. At the very least Kurando thought this to be truth.
「……haha, scary, scary.」(Kurando)
Kurando felt a little relief after saying something; although, with having said such words he didn’t feel all that comfortable.
The agitated Makushiimu clicks his tongue.
「Well, cocky bastard, you understand what will happen to you right.」(Makushiimu)
After Makushiimu grumbles while making a sour expression, he starts to explain the situation. The story was very unpleasant.
As Kurando listens to Makushiimu, Kurando started to feel relieved. There seems

to have been a misunderstanding.

Makushiimu speaks with passion and angry as he talks about the events surrounding the situation.
Aside from Zauru, only four other old-noble hunters (ザウル) had returned from the white phantom subjugation.
Zauru falsely reported that Akari had intentionally led the group of hunter into the nest of a giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku), and that had resulted in the groups annihilation.
Neither the hunter association nor the government launched a proper investigation. Akari was immediately put on the most wanted list. She is currently wanted dead or alive.
In the frontier regions of Dorugan respect is very important to hunters; those who betray a fellow hunter will be severely punished.
Of course, they didn't accept Makushiimu's appeal.
Contrary to his expectation, Roorana's (ローラナ) parliament strongly objected Makushiimu's investigation. Normally when a just sentencing is demanded a number of investigators are sent out. But, in this matter none were.
The Roorana parliament had cut ties with the hero, Akari. They had decided to give up on the lesser hero Akari since they already have the other hero that is far superior. If they did choose to save Akari then that would crush Dorugan's honor. And if that would had happened, then the relationship with Dorugan would be even worse.

「I understand that the bastard, Zauru, is lying but I need evidence.」 (Makushiimu)
「What about the other hunters?」 (Kurando)
「The hunters that had returned are all that bastard Zauru's protege. They all gave the same story.」 (Makushiimu)
「Can you search for evidence yourself…… or are you unable to?」 (Kurando)
「Stop talking so coldly. Haha, if I could I would've already done so.」 (Makushiimu)
「I have a habit of speaking this way.」 (Kurando)
「Tsk…… if by chance I come across Akari, then the people who are watching me will be lead to her. If that were to happen then the country will also be after me. And, then I would also be on the run.」 (Makushiimu)

Upon saying so, Makushiimu had a mortified expression.
「I see, then what do you plan to do?」(Kurando)
As Kurando listens to the affairs of another person, Makushiimu's eye's were shifting around.
「First, I need to talk with Akari and hear her side of the story. But, before that what is your objective?」(Makushiimu)
For some reason, Kurando has a troubled expression.
「My purpose, huh?」(Kurando)

Kurando is truthfully troubled.
He didn't have a goal. Kurando had descended to this village on a whim.
It has been about 580 days since he was summoned onto this mountain. He had thought that perhaps by going here it would cause a shift in his daily life.
A change of pace would be nice, but he didn't want to be caught up in anything complicated.
In the first place, Kurando doesn't have any real relationship to the hero, Akari.
They don't know one another well enough. Kurando doesn't want any trouble.
He doesn't want to be found out by the residence of this world nor by the people who were summoned alongside him. This situation is only a big hassle.
Kurando's best bet is to say he is a native of this world who happens to be a mountain hermit that is currently visiting the village.
And so, as a mountain hermit Kurando had rescued Akari.
No that won't work. It is perhaps only a matter of time before Makushiimu learns of the connection between Akari and Kurando.
Can Kurando trust Makushiimu?
It isn't like he can read another person's mind or their intentions.

「First, swear that no information I tell you will leave this room.」(Kurando)
「Huh?」(Makushiimu)
「Akari had also sworn it. I just want to live quietly.」(Kurando)
「I don't who you are nor do I know if you're a foreign soldier from somewhere, but why should I make a promise to you?」(Makushiimu)
「A person who can't keep a promise is scum. Well, I won't put my life in your hands.」(Kurando)
「……something like a hunter's code.」(Makushiimu)
「Good. For now, please think of me as a mountain hermit who had been hiding

in the mountains.」(Kurando)
「Have you been hiding there all this time?」(Makushiimu)
「Somehow you must have figured out a bit. Be careful not to leak anything.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu makes a troubled expression.
Kurando ignores Makushiimu and continues to speak.
「This time around my purpose is to be the mediator between you and Akari. No reward is necessary; please, think of me as a third party.」(Kurando)
「Just call me Makushiimu. Good intentions, huh? You're not trying to trick me, right?」(Makushiimu)
「Is Akari currently on Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain? How is her condition?」(Makushiimu)
「Does the white phantom exist?」(Makushiimu)
「Let's see, I didn't leave the mountain; so, I don't know its name. But, last year people from a neighboring area hunted a big magical beast.」(Kurando)
「Haha, that was me. It was beyond human capabilities.」(Makushiimu)
「You won't be able to go there now. Around this time of year, the winds will be too strong.」(Kurando)
「I see. So that was how it was. Did you see me up there? If that is the case, we were being observed then, were you the one watching us?」(Makushiimu)
Kurando needs to tread carefully because Makushiimu and Akari will eventually meet up.
「……may I inquire as to what one would do to survive?」(Kurando)
「Did you enter the mountain with…… the intent to kill?」(Kurando)
「Never mind, I was the one who instigated the spider attack.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu frowns.
「You were…… the one who set this up?」(Makushiimu)
In the middle of the conversation, blood lust lingers in the air.
「Do not worry you'll understand after listening to what I have to say.
Coincidently, the beast they came to hunt is the one I'm currently living with and it is also the child of the magical beast you had hunted. Because of that I didn't have a choice.」(Kurando)
「……for the life of Iruniiku? You're joking right, was there a need to instigate a spider attack for that reason?」(Makushiimu)

「Well, forgive my ignorance.」(Kurando)
「……now remember your promise. Will you inform your superior?」(Kurando)
「Running away! ——are you going to use Akari as a shield.」(Makushiimu)
「……have you no compassion, why use a woman as a shield!」(Makushiimu)
「Someone who breaks their promise is a pathetic person!」
After threatening one another it became silent.

「Okay then, tomorrow wait at the campsite near the spider's territory. I will get in contact with you there. I will say this just in cause, "please, come alone".」(Kurando)
Kurando waited in the darkness for Makushiimu's reply before exiting the room.

No traces were left in the inn; only Makushiimu was left in the room.
「He does not wish to yield nor does he want to take responsibility.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu thought of Kurando as a benign poison that isn't harmful in everyday life, but when it wants to survive it self-destructs and begins to spread. However, if Kurando sacrifices Akari then…… Makushiimu looks toward his ax that is leaning against the wall.

– ToC –

Chapter 18: Akari ⑥

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１８ーアカリ⑥
Chapter 18 – Akari ⑥

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The following morning Makushiimu has a determined expression. His goal is to ascend the mountain and find Akari.
Naturally, the hunters that are following the man from the giant race will earnestly chase after him. They are collaborating with the hunter association. Their numbers are unknown.
Nevertheless, the hunters are planning to attack Makushiimu at the campsite. That is why Kurando told Makushiimu to wait at that campsite. If they challenge Kurando then they will become the food that will fill the giant thorny spider (Atorabahiku's) belly.

It is a rather simple trick. Last night Kurando instructed Yukishiro to trip the giant spider's web when he whistles. And then, all Kurando would need to do is lead them to the location nearby.
After that, it is only a matter of the giant thorny spider finding its prey.
There is no problem at all. The spider will not be able to catch the quick Yukishiro.

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「I should've searched for her from the start……」(Makushiimu)
「Akari has already been found. I should hurry there.」(Makushiimu)
It took Makushiimu half the time an ordinary man would need to reach the

destination.
As Kurando ponders what to say, he sees Makushiimu drawing closer.
「What strength…… is there really any need for him to worry?」(Kurando)
Over Makushiimu's shoulder there hangs a rucksack, axe, and coat. His chest is bare and there is steam rising from all over his body.
「You're steaming. Is the strength of a giant race just for show?」(Kurando)
Being mocked by another person, Makushiimu has a shocked expression.

Body strengthening is life spirit magic; it is related to and also contains some elements of recovery magic.
Life spirit magic more or less involves the soul. Although one's soul isn't considered a part of spirit magic itself.
Everything has a soul. And everyone tries to protect their own life. Anything that would go against self-preservation is rejected. Oneself would reject the idea. But recovery magic nulls that notion.
In other words, the flesh is entrusted to the effect of the life spirit magic.
A normal person's body can't be compared to the body of one from the giant race. To be able to strengthen the body is unusual. When body strengthening is used excess heat is produced in the body. That is the reason why Makushiimu is half naked.
In his ignorance, Kurando had pointed out that Makushiimu was streaming.

They both stopped chatting and silently climbed the mountain.
Kurando and Makushiimu left the area as hunters were pre-occupied by the giant thorny spider (Atorabashiku).

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Not long after Akari and Makushiimu are reunited.
Akari came out of the cave and was engulf by the evening sun as Makushiimu ascends up the rough terrain.
Without incident, they meet one another again.——
But, out from the cave comes Yukishiro, and the threat begins anew.
Its monochrome spotted tail stands erect, it makes a low stance and bares its fangs.

Makushiimu covers the bewildered Akari with his arm before tossing aside his rucksack. He takes hold of his axe and lowers it to his waist into a stance.

——*Grrhhh*
Upon Yukishiro's growl, Makushiimu shows a ferocious smile that gave him the appears of a wild beast.

A man and animal stare one another down. In this critical moment, Kurando merely watches them.
The hostility seems to never end. Neither tries to kill and neither attacks. To attack is to risk one's life. That is the way of the wild.
Furthermore, Makushiimu and Yukishiro are sworn, enemies. Kurando can't bring himself to tell Yukishiro to stand down.
At first, it appeared to be unfortunate for Makushiimu, but the person in question seems to be enjoying this situation; he doesn't look troubled. Kurando chooses to be a spectator.
For some reason Akari interrupts them. Kurando tilts his head in bewilderment.
Akari probably though the matter was trivial. She glares at Kurando for just watching from the sidelines.
Mostly likely Akari is condemning Kurando for not stopping them.
She probably does believe the situation is trivial.

「Let's put an end to this battle; we have other matters to attend to. Can we not postpone this?」(Akari)
Makushiimu draws his long spear.
——*Grrowhh*
The air vibrates from a brief roar.
Yukishiro's hind legs bend; it jumps.

「Really now…… it truly does want to bite my head off?」(Makushiimu)
Yukishiro vanishes into the back of the cave on the mountain.
「It isn't like that, we don't have that sort of relationship.」(Kurando)
「So it isn't your pet?」(Makushiimu)
「It's more like the opposite. It is the one who has been supporting me.」(Kurando)
「……YOU, really?」(Makushiimu)
「I'm surprised you think so highly of me.」(Kurando)
「That wasn't a compliment.」(Makushiimu)

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「It’s good to see you again, but」 (Makushiimu)
Akari and Makushiimu are chatting. They seem unconcerned about Kurando who is standing next to them. Kurando a little annoyed.
「Ah, there you are. You are so tin——」 (Makushiimu)
「I’m not tiny.」 (Akari)
Makushiimu teases the angry Akari.
「Is that so, Akari isn’t tiny, she isn’t tiny.」 (Makushiimu)
As Makushiimu strokes his moustache Akari playfully pummels his head.
A fed-up Akari turns her head the other way.
「Hmm, it is good that you’re well.」 (Makushiimu)

Feeling dejected Akari casts her gaze downward.
「I’ve troubled you greatly.」 (Akari)
With a shaken voice she tells him so. Makushiimu’s places his hand on her head.
「It is not like you’re a saint or anything.」 (Makushiimu)
He roughly caresses her head.
When did the tears start to flow from Akari’s eyes?

「Can you wrap it up; you can stay the night, okay. Anyways, it will be dark soon.」 (Kurando)
After saying so, Kurando walks into the cave without any destination in mind.
「Wait a moment. I have something to talk to you about.」 (Makushiimu)
The evening rays fell into the forest and vanished.

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On the other side of the mountain, there is a vertical cliff.
In that area, there is a monochrome spotted tail hanging downward.
「Thank you for bearing with it.」 (Kurando)
Kurando greets Yukishiro and pets its back.
It responses with a low growl.
Yukishiro remains facing towards the cliff and doesn’t turn to face Kurando.
Yukishiro can’t win against Makushiimu. Kurando is aware of that fact.
It instinctively knew it. There is still a large gap between Yukishiro and its parent’s foe. Yukishiro is shaken. It had originally planned to do a hit and run attack but there was no opening.
Kurando tells Yukishiro to not worry.

「Someday you will get a chance to kill him.」(Kurando)
What would Makushiimu and Akari think?
「Someday I too might return the favor.」(Kurando)
Although Kurando is not concerned about Hayato (ハヤト), Kurando will deal with that matter if it ever comes to be.
Kurando couldn't bring himself to deny Yukishiro of such emotions because he too felt such feelings.
The events that brought man and magical beast together; Hayato stole Kurando's ability; and, no one came to search for Kurando; the parent magical beast that taken care of Kurando had been losted.——
——It isn't time for them to make a move yet, things are still considerably unclear.
「You're really stubborn.」(Kurando)
At that time Kurando, fluff fluffs, the fluffy white fur on Yukishiro's chest.
——*Gur, Gurrrh*
Finally, Yukishiro relaxed. Kurando leans forward.
Yukishiro no longer felt depressed. Kurando vigorously pets Yukishiro's head.
It is already about the average size of a snow leopard. But to Kurando, Yukishiro has not changed.
Kurando has the strength to overpower Yukishiro when it has its claws and fangs withdrawn.
As soon as Kurando leaned forward he had already applied strength to bring down Yukishiro. Yukishiro remembers all those days that they had wrestled with one another.
Yukishiro could not resist. Everyday Kurando had grappled with Yukishiro. It is knocked down and tickled.

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By the time he returned back to the cave it was already dark. There is a fire going in the fireplace.
「I've prepared the firewood.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu informs them upon Yukishiro and Kurando entering the cave.
「Ah, sorry. I don't normally use firewood.」(Kurando)
「You don't, then what do you use?」(Makushiimu)
「I make do with just fire spirits.」(Kurando)

Kurando casually states so; as, Makushiimu and Akari stay seated they blankly stare at one another. Afterwards, Makushiimu sulks when he sees Yukishiro sitting behind Kurando.
「How is it that the fire spirits aren't dispersing?」(Makushiimu)
「The answer is written in the textbook.」(Kurando)
Akari and Makushiimu are both amazed.
「It is, that's quite efficient」(Makushiimu)
「Ahem, however, it takes a lot of maryoku it seems? For the first half year I used it, it was very exhausting.」(Kurando)
「……it was necessary to be able to cook food.」(Kurando)
「I had to maintain the fire, then make the earth pot, and this also while trying to create water. Hmm, what were the other parts?」(Kurando)
Typically, firewood is used to start the fire.
Kurando brought out meat and wild grass. As usual, he made an earth pot. He makes water with water spirit magic and adds all the ingredients together.
The fire spirits surround the pot's circumference. Kurando uses earth spirit magic to create a thin stick. He pierces the meat with the stick. The fire gradually became warm. So that the meat would cook evenly, Kurando rotates the meat around.
The two people that were watching him had a bewitched expression.
「I saw the same thing yesterday. Would you call this a show of dexterity.」(Akari)
「Were you taught how to do this?」(Makushiimu)
Kurando is able to maintain the flame of fire spirits along with being about to use earth and water magic. Being able to use a lower rank magic is considered good, but being able to use three different types of magic is like lifting a soccer ball while trying to use a saw and hammering a nail all at the same time. In other words, it is a show of acrobatics.
「Well, it's probably a general magic textbook…… perhaps.」(Makushiimu)
「What kind of textbook is it?」(Akari)
Kurando retrieves the thick magic textbook from his moss-green rucksack and hands it over to Makushiimu. The book shows signs of being worn down from being re-read. It was starting to fall apart in some places.
「……it's the basics alright, or should I say everything in general.」(Makushiimu)
Akari receives the textbook from Makushiimu and she flips through the pages.

「Hmph, you're the only one who got a copy. Not only is it a textbook but it is also an encyclopedia.」(Akari)
「It seems so. If this book were to be made public, things could get messy.」(Makushiimu)
「Did you study this textbook?」(Makushiimu)

While being surprised to hear their response Kurando nearly forgot about the meat. Kurando passes the meat to Yukishiro who is behind him.
Yukishiro enjoys the side of the meat that had become slightly burnt.
Makushiimu watches Yukishiro chewing its food.
Kurando strengthens the fire. The stew is almost fully cooked. He scoops some stew into the bowls before passing them over to the other two.
They return the textbook back to Kurando.

After finishing his curry flavored stew Makushiimu exhales.
「I will return back to my country. For now, please look after Akari.」(Makushiimu)

– ToC –

Chapter 19: The Hunter Association ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

１９ーハンター協会①

Chapter 19 – The Hunter Association ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Kurando wanted to voice his opinion but Makushiimu (マクシーム) continues to talk.

「I won't take long. After I visit the temple in my country, I'll come right back to fetch you, Akari.」 (Makushiimu)

「A temple?」 (Akari)

Akari inquiries about it before Kurando could ask.

「Until Akari is proven to be innocent, don't reveal yourself because it will attract unnecessary attention.」 (Makushiimu)

Kurando would surely attract suspicion.

「That's true.」 (Akari)

「It is safe to say there hasn't been a genuine discover in magic for quite some time. It is drastic enough for you to be called a『hero』.」 (Makushiimu)

「……that makes sense.」 (Kurando)

「Yes,『a gift from the spirits』, Doufubadara (ドゥフバダラ),『divine blessing』, providence; these are called the power/ ability of a hero. If I recall, that girl's power is called『the scythe of truth』Fakutosaisu (ファクトサイス). If you lie to『her』you will die. Of course, if you tell the truth you won't be harmed.」 (Makushiimu)

「That sounds like a troublesome ability.」 (Akari)

Akari shows a bitter smile.

「Indeed. If I borrow her power, then perhaps the country will listen.」 (Makushiimu)

(First; the existing system needs to be replaced.)
(Second; I don't approve of the current authority the system has.)
(Third; I don't approve of the system accepting the testimony of a single person and enforcing the sentencing with extortion.
(Fourth; the submitting of evidence and testimony is too restricted.)
(Fifth; once a judgment is made no other proof is accepted.)
(Sixth; each nation can hand out judgment in favor of their own self-interest.)
(Seventh; the current system is treating the most important judgment, the guilt or innocence of a person as a general sentencing.)
(T/N: this was utter nonsense, I tried to at least make some sense of this mess)

「Hmm, you've thought of everything.」 (Kurando)
「When I was a senior in high school, I dreamt of being a police officer or a lawyer.」 (Akari)
「Umm, I hope it goes well and all, however.」 (Kurando)
「……wait, wait moment, don't say any more.」 (Akari)
「Sorry, bad habit. So then, what is this temple place? Does that place hold a special power?」 (Kurando)
While pondering about this potential power that could bring his life more difficult, Kurando pets Yukishiro's back as it bites into its second piece of meat.
「……ah yes, the woman, Sandora (サンドラ) is the head priest of the main religion on Eripusu (エリプス). She can be found in the temple located in the country near the western province. Since the judgment has already been handed out, we can't rely on the system.」 (Makushiimu)
「So, are you going to try to overturn the sentence by using the temple's authority.」 (Kurando)
Makushiimu who is beside Akari nods.
「Makushiimu-san is there no other option aside from something so troublesome?」 (Akari)
「Whatever, as long as nothing goes wrong.」 (Kurando)
Akari gives a tiresome sigh in response to Kurando's statement.
「Makushiimu-san hold on a moment. I'm not sure this a good idea. It sounds like trouble.」 (Akari)

「Can the priest even do anything about the situation?」(Kurando)
Kurando joking says.
「I don't know for sure.」(Makushiimu)
「However, sometimes in religion, a child is pardoned from their crimes. That sort of thing could be rather convenient.」(Makushiimu)
「Thus, John, for now, will you look after Akari——」(Makushiimu)
「「——John?」」(Akari)
Akari displays a giant question mark? Kurando who realizes the alias laughs and smiles.
A vein raises from Makushiimu's head.
「Sorry, sorry, I forgot Kurando.」(Akari)
Makushiimu inhales to calm himself down.
「Kurando, huh? It sounds familiar, where are you from?」(Makushiimu)
「It's top secret.」(Kurando)
「……nevermind. Do you mind looking after Akari for a while?」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu and Akari simultaneously look at Kurando.

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The next morning.
The sunlight streams in the dim cave, and the clear air of the mountain flows inside.
「Does it not feel nice?」(Akari)
As they are stretching outside in the sun, Akari's voice had come from behind Kurando and Yukishiro.
「Where is Makushiimu?」(Kurando)
「He is still asleep and snoring rather loudly.」(Akari)
「It must've been quite a nuisance.」(Kurando)
「I've gotten used to it. But, is it really okay?」(Akari)
「Akari you're currently in a life and death situation. It should be alright to shelter you; so, there isn't a problem.」(Kurando)
「But, if by chance it were to be found out that,」(Akari)
「Akari there is still the possibility that everything will be resolved.」(Kurando)
「……and, what if it isn't?」(Akari)
Kurando gave a half-hearted reply before turning his heel and going back into the cave.

While Kurando was turning away his offstandish attitude added with the profile view of his face gave Akari an unusual lingering impression of him.

「Kurando, you should also descend down the mountain.」(Akari)
Kurando makes an expression that seems to wonder what Akari is implying.
「You already have your luggage, right? Anyways, carelessly moving around will only draw suspicion.」(Kurando)
「What are you trying to say?」(Kurando)
「Is not what you and I have on perfectly fine?」(Kurando)
「……ah, so that's what you meant.」(Kurando)
Kurando has a very tense expression.
「That's why I'm recommending you to join the hunter association.」(Akari)
Kurando expression stiffens even more.
「Don't misunderstand. It isn't like I don't trust you, Akari. I'm aware that if I become a hunter I could get identification papers. And, there doesn't seem to be any demerits for you either.」(Kurando)
「Do not overdo it, though.」(Akari)
Although Akari is a modest high school girl, Kurando doesn't feel satisfaction from sheltering her.
「Fine.」(Kurando)
Kurando breathed out a sigh of mixed emotions. (TN: the dialog is maddest)

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Akari sees off Makushiimu and Kurando as those two descend down the mountain.
Yukishiro is attracted by the giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku (アトラバシク), and left Akari to watch the cave. Although for just a second, Yukishiro seemed dissatisfied with the idea.

「——hmm, have I gain a bit of favor with Iruniiku (イルニーク).」(Akari)

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Kurando watched in admiration as he saw Makushiimu agilely go down the mountain.
「He doesn't seem human.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu's body easily descends the mountain like a roaring wildcat. In

respects, it is similar to how Yukishiro moves.

They are able to pass under the village's gate before sundown.
There is a dispute at the entrance. Makushiimu forcibly makes his way through the gate.
「You're a surprisingly influential person.」(Kurando)
「Hmph, something this minor doesn't require much authority.」(Makushiimu)
The two of them walk through the village at dusk.
Along the straight path from the gate to the village, there are dense rows of small houses with smoke coming out of their stone chimneys; the villagers are cooking their dinner.
If one were to look around as they travel along the road, they would see that the shops and restaurants have already closed.
A villager is knocking on the door of a shop that happens to be closed. It seems rather inconvenient for a shop to accept work after business hours, but in small villages such as this perhaps they need to help one another out.

As the two walk down the straight road, they happen upon whispers and glances of their surroundings.
Kurando came to understand that this situation somehow involves the dispute with the gatekeeper.
「Your story will be that you were abandoned on the mountain as a child, alright.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu whispers this to Kurando.
Kurando nods.

Upon entering the gate, the hunters association's, Sarewado (サレハド) branch is a short distance away. It is a building that surely looks like a fantasy themed tavern.
After passing through the old wooden swing style door, on the right-hand-side there is a bartender and a counter; and, on the left-hand-side, there is a wooden staircase that leads to the floor above.
At the counter, there are several men drinking alcohol. There is a person that looks like a hooligan, a person with dog ears, and a short dwarf. They seem to all have the build of a hunter.
Being on his home turf, Makushiimu instantly and indirectly analyzed the place

for any information.
Kurando is restless as his eyes wander around the room.
In silence Makushiimu casually walks up to the counter.
Kurando wasn't in a rush, he takes in the surrounding before going over to where Makushiimu is.

「Hey, I want to recommend a person to be a hunter.」(Makushiimu)
The staff member at the counter is surprised to see Makushiimu. Makushiimu removes something that resembles a dog tag and passes it to the staff member.
「You left without saying anything, what's going on?」(staff member)
「Please.」(Makushiimu)
「……do you miss her?」(staff member)
The staff member observes Makushiimu.
「Did you find anything?」(staff member)
Makushiimu frowns.
「……umm, is the recommendation for the young man behind you…… I've never seen someone of his race before.」(staff member)
「I can vouch for his skill; a temporary application for first position or lower will be good.」(Makushiimu)
「A recommendation from, the『white spear (白槍)』, a commanding officer of the united kingdom's hunter detachment corps, correct. Please, confirm the identity of the examinee. If this portion is omitted, then the examinee will be assigned a temporary advisor. Will this be okay.」(staff member)
They doubt that this situation has nothing to do with Akari. To prevent Makushiimu from taking any action they are using their authority to restrict him.
The indifferent staff member proceeds with the request.
「I don't mind.」(Makushiimu)
「Okay then, this way.」(staff member)
Kurando approaches the counter.
「Write your name and birthplace here.」(staff member)
「I can't write.」(Kurando)
Kurando bluntly says this to the staff member. The staff member looks at Kurando's face before putting the application paper away.
「Then we can do an oral interview.」(staff member)
「Kurando. Origin…… Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain.」(Kurando)

The staff member once again looks at Kurando's face before looking at Makushiimu.
「I found him when I was searching for Akari. It seems that he was abandon by his parents, and somehow he was able to survive.」(Makushiimu)
「……understood. Makushiimu-san, please verify this.」(staff member)
「That's fine.」(Makushiimu)
「Understood. Makushiimu-san will you please carefully inform him of the association's rules. Now then, has his aptitude been evaluated?」(staff member)
「Please, have him evaluated.」(Makushiimu)
「I see, this will be his first evaluation in a decade or so.」(staff member)
「Normally one would have their aptitude evaluated during their schooling years, but this guy was stranded on the mountain.」(Makushiimu)
Everything was decided on without Kurando's acknowledgment.
Makushiimu gives an explanation when he noticed that Kurando was annoyed.

「You see, each person already has a predetermined spirit affinity.」(Makushiimu)

– ToC –

Chapter 20: The Hunter Association ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２０ーハンター協会②

Chapter 20 – The Hunter Association ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The expression in his eyes changed.

Kurando makes his way into the inner part of the building. Behind a partition screen, there are rings for each of the major spirits; the rings seem to drain maryoku.

After seeing the results of the unknown newcomer that the『white spear (白槍)』brought, the hunter association staff member's opinion of Kurando changed from being a newcomer to being simply leftovers.

The staff member explains to Kurando without any pity or remorse. It was a very simple explanation.

Kurando has the most compatibility with dark spirits.

Second is ice, then in the following order of earth, water, wind, lightning, fire and lastly his worst affinity is light. He has a very high compatibility with darkness. And, he has the absolute worst affinity with light.

Affinity has nothing to do with a person's general daily life. In actuality, Kurando has no problems with handling both fire and light.

Then what exactly is the problem? In specialized occupations such as blacksmith, sailor, firefighter, farmer, engineer, and soldier; a person's affinity is very important. In the case of a blacksmith they need to be able to handle the heat from fire. As for a sailor they need either wind or water to safely navigate. Water is used to extinguish fire. With agriculture either earth or water is needed to

manage crops. An engineers need earth. A soldier needs the killing strength of fire or lightning. People with the aptitude for light are held in high regard.
Then, what about for hunters?
At first『the darkness』seems like it would be good for covert ops; however, to make use of the ability they must go hunting at night; no one does that. The magical beast and monsters are not hindered by the night or the darkness. To go hunting in the night is simply hazardous to one's life.
And more so, darkness has no offensive capabilities.
As for『ice』, its effect can't be used in lands with few ice spirits. Although it can be used to preserve game. But, that is more the job of a courier, or being a porter than working as a hunter.

The staff member made light of Kurando.
However, Kurando is unconcerned, he found it fortunate to know his affinity.
In the end to become a first class hunter is impossible. The hunters are not aware of affinity with spirit magic. From his narrow perspective as a person from modern day Japan, Kurando doesn't understand his predicament. Perhaps it is from being young, but Kurando could only think of methods to advance his class. It is still too soon for Kurando to understand his position and that is mostly likely why he views it as fortunate.
Maybe he himself couldn't understand the concept. As a modern day Japanese person the idea of aptitude might not have gotten through to him.

「Well, it isn't like people in general have a high affinity with the giant race traits or spirit magic. And, it is not like autonomous magic users and lifeforce magic users are weapon specialist either.」(Makushiimu)
The staff member shown a wry smile as he listens to Makushiimu tell Kurando to disregard affinity.
It is truth that there is a low affinity with giant race traits and spirit magic. Body strengthening is the specialty of lifeforce magic; and there is nothing else that can compare to it.
「Makushiimu-san, may I have a word with you?」(staff member)
The staff member withdrawn their bitter smile; Makushiimu nods in response.
「Umm, Kurando why not look over the requests while you wait. Well, I shouldn't be gone long.」(Makushiimu)
After saying so, Makushiimu goes with the staff member to a room in the back.

He had to bend down to enter the room.

Pest Extermination・Magical Beast Capture・Gather Special Medicinal Herbs・Mountain Escort/ Guard. There are many written request on the bulletin board directly horizontal from the counter.
There is one particular request that has no time limit; the request was posted half a year ago. Kurando consented that it was best to leave that particular request alone.

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「At first I thought, “what exceptional talent has the commanding officer『white spear』brought”, but didn’t he bring an out of place failure?」(hooligan A)
「Pfft, he’s better off being a porter!」(hooligan B)
「He came here to be a hunter, but he’s going to spend the rest of his life as a porter.」(hooligan C)
A bald muscular daruma and two hooligans talk provocatively behind Kurando’s back.
Kurando doesn’t respond to them; he leaves the bulletin board.
But, the muscular daruma forcibly seizes Kurando by the shoulders.
「Hey, hey, ain’t you a hunter, where’s your manners.」(muscular daruma)
「Oh, this guy thinks he can use 3 curved (三剣角鹿), Aromeri (アロメリ) blades.」(hooligan A)
「What era are those hunter tools from? I thought as much this guy is broke.」(hooligan B)
「Well, he isn’t a hunter just yet. He doesn’t have permission to have a weapon. We’ll be looking after this.」(muscular daruma)
The hooligan, three-horn, reaches towards Kurando’s lower waist to take his weapon.
Naturally, Kurando didn’t permit this, he reflexively dodged the hooligan’s advance. And, by no means was the hooligan’s movements fast.
However, Kurando slightly stepped on the muscular durama’s foot.
「Bastard!」(muscular durama)
Seconds later.
The muscular duruma’s fist approaches Kurando’s abdominal. For his own sake,

Kurando had a feeling that it was best to not resist.
Kurando was knocked to the stone wall.
He felt his abdominal muscles contract, and blood rushes to his head.
「Haha, he really is a failure.」(muscular daruma)
The hooligan crouches down and faces Kurando who is laying down against the wall.
The thin chain holding Kurando's dog tag falls to the floor.
「There shouldn't be any problems, I'm in the right, you see. 」(muscular daruma)
When the three noticed Makushiimu appear from behind them, they clicked their tongue and left.
「……stand up. You should be able to.」(Makushiimu)
Kurando picks up the dog tag and slowly stands up.
「I'm having more trouble getting up than I thought.」(Kurando)
「Umm, what happen for there to be signs of lifeforce strengthening magic being used?」(Makushiimu)
「They were sizing up the new competition.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu made a blank expression before momentarily understanding what Kurando meant.
「Well, we aren't in the mountain. You should get use to brawls.」(Makushiimu)
「Isn't that your strong point.」(Kurando)

「It is no exaggeration to say that you have brawled with half of the population of hunters in this kingdom.」(staff member)
The voice of the staff member who had registered Kurando came from behind Makushiimu.
「Anyhow, personal vendettas among fellow hunters is prohibited. Please be careful, it is prohibited to draw one's weapon or use magic inside the building.」(staff member)
「……but, what if I'm the victim?」(Kurando)
The staff member's expression remains unchanged.
「No matter the reason, unless one has permission they may not use magic.」(staff member)
「What if they started the fight?」(Kurando)
「You are in the wrong; you possess a weapon without permission.」(staff member)

「Then, was it alright from them to assault me?」(Kurando)
「It happened because you resisted.」(staff member)
「But, I was about to be hit.」(Kurando)
「Then, handle the situation without using magic or a weapon. Because, you are a hunter.」(staff member)
It is a rather straightforward answer.
「They wanted to hit you ever since you walked through the door.」(Makushiimu)
「That is because, the members at this branch office only recognize magic affinity.」(staff member)
It really is a quite straightforward.
Kurando frowns at the fact that this world isn't any different from Japan.
「Well, since this is the first time I will overlook the incident, but there won't be a next time. This tag, the 10th star of Ruterera (ルテレラ), it is proof of being a hunter. It is a all-in-one pass that serves as one's identification document, it gives one permission to possess arms, and it gives one authorization to use 3rd rank magic. Please, always carry it with you. If you lose it, you will be penalized.」(staff member)
After telling this to Kurando, the staff member returns to the reception desk.

「Well, settle down. Remember, it also affects Akari, and this applies to the both of us. It doesn't matter which branch office we are in the rules are all the same.」(Makushiimu)
Kurando snorts like a child, he is in a bad mood.
He has a blank expression, and their is no telling what he is thinking.
「I have to leave the village tomorrow; so, for the time being, why not try a normal extermination request?」(Makushiimu)
「You're in a hurry.」(Kurando)
「I've been summoned, you see.」(Makushiimu)
They go to the reception desk and face the dislikable staff member.
「Is there something else?」(staff member)
「Is the extermination request for Torabokku(s) available?」(Makushiimu)
「Ah, yes it is. I will need his signature here.」(staff member)
「Only the name?」(Kurando)
「Yes.」(staff member)
「Can you show us the application paper from before so Kurando can copy his

name.」(Makushiimu)
Kurando merely needs to copy how his name is written on the application.
「Makushiimu, are we finished?」(Kurando)
「Hmm, oh okay, it's legible.」(Makushiimu)
「……your proof of hunter.」(staff member)
Kurando hands over his proof of hunter status to the staff member. The staff member goes to work on the opposite side of the counter.
「Now then, I have process your order to exterminate Torabokku(s). As proof of subjugation bring back the green stone and beware not to damage it.」(staff member)
Makushiimu tries to leave but Kurando doesn't move.
「——is there a copy of the request?」(Kurando)

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「Ahahaha, how did you know they gave out copies? Even in big cities no one bothers to ask.」(Makushiimu)
「Is it not normal to ask?」(Kurando)
「Hunters don't normally think about the small details.」(Makushiimu)

Makushiimu paid for 3 nights at the inn he is boarding. Kurando ends up receiving the room that was suppose to be for Akari.
It's already too late, the Dorugan (ドルガン) authorities have already repossess Akari's luggage. It is inevitable, Kurando has to go earn money.
「Huh, how considerate of you, Makushiimu, to give me some spending money.」(Kurando)
「……how do you plan to pay me back?」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu has a serious expression.
「Ahah, so that's how it is.」(Kurando)
Kurando twirls around the proof of hunter status that he had received.
「That reminds me, I don't have a single coin on me.」(Kurando)
「Hmm, well, it is not like you were aware of the hunter association.」(Makushiimu)
「Exactly, what is your position in all of this?」(Kurando)
「Ah, I do mercenary work and assist the explorers guild. Well, I'm currently employed by the country. Although, there isn't any mercenary work for me right

now. Okay, I'll explain more about hunters.」(Makushiimu)

Afterwards, Makushiimu gave Kurando a rough explanation.
As expected, the hunter association is a part of the country.

– ToC –

Chapter 21: The Hunter Association ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２１ーハンター協会③

Chapter 21 – The Hunter Association ③

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Kurando enjoyed sleeping on his first real bed in a long time.
Even if it is a cheap bed with a flimsy wooden frame, it is far more comfortable than sleeping on the bare earth.
Whether it was a bed or a futon, or if there was hardly a blanket, Kurando still thought it felt comfortable.

Last night, Makushiimu (マクシーム) gave Kurando a lecture about hunters.
Makushiimu regretted that Kurando wasn't more interested in the topic.

Hunters take personal request from countries, cities, and villages. Their work range from gathering plants to hunting magical beast.
The hunter association's role is to unite the hunters.
Before it was a large adventurer guild without any borders. However, presently the hunter association, the explorer guild, and the mercenary union are separate. And, they are managed by each country.
Hunters are not officially employed by a county; they are hired under contract. In other words, hunters have to compete for work. And, they only get paid after the job is finished. As far as the law is concerned, every hunter is responsible for themselves.
After the hunter association was established the number of conflicts decreased. Because the former adventurer guild (the hunter association) had enough war potential to rival a large kingdom, it was divide and then absorbed among every

country. And thus, with the arrival of spirit magic the kingdom became the modern state it is today.
That is why even now the hunter association has close ties with the mercenary union and connections within the explorer guild. The association's policy is to follow the will of each country.
Therefore, that is why the event with Akari turned out the way it did.

The proof of hunter has various ranks. The starting rank is the 10th star, Ruterera (ルテレラ); and it ends with the 1st star, Riguserupu (リグセルプ) being the top rank.
There are additional variations of rankings for special hunter achievements that had been made in things like hunting and gathering. Aside from the general 10 hunter ranks there are various star color evaluations among each rank.
If the rank is assigned by the hunter association then the star will not have a color. A dispatch request for a specific star color can be issued to a 1st-star rank holder. (T/N: might be wrong, raw, unclear meaning)

Naturally, Kurando has a colorless Ruterera (10th star). Makushiimu has the country's commemorative Riguserupu (1st star) rank.
However, it is colorless.

Makushiimu had explained that in the case of an emergency, such as a massive stampede of monster, the hunter association has the right to nominate a hunter to be dispatch. The lecture lasted long into the night.

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Early morning, 5:30.
Kurando sees the morning sun shining in. He looks at the clock that is furnished in the inn's dining hall. When calculated this world also follows a 24-hour clock.
Kurando had a cheap and functional wrist watch when he lived in the cave.
「*Yawn*」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu's appears after he passes through the wooden door.
In the inn, there are traditional chairs and tables along with worn old wooden doors. The floor and walls are made of a collect of stones.
Makushiimu's face is like a sculpture from a western myth or legend. He is a giant with red hair and a red mustache.
Kurando alone was awestruck by this surreal fantasy-like scene.

「You didn't leave the mountain before I woke up. Does it have something to do with cultural etiquette?」(Kurando)
「It's a good habit for one who makes a living as a hunter as around this time the association shouldn't be crowded.」(Makushiimu)
Kurando gets up.
「Should we get going?」(Kurando)
The two left the inn without eating breakfast.

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Today Makushiimu will return to his home country, Roorana (ローラナ).
For that reason, the hunter registration and the acceptance of a request were rushed.
「Torabokku (トラボック)…… is it too early? Oh, over there.」(Makushiimu)
For some reason, Makushiimu is half naked and pointing to a direction in the wilderness.

Afterward, Makushiimu and Kurando left the village gate.
Behind the village is Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア山) mountain. The dirt path from the village's front gate will lead to Roorana. Those two are currently somewhere in between the front gate and the wilderness.
Around them, there is dry earth and stones with a few scattered leaves and shrubs followed by an endless stretch of weeds.

At the destination Makushiimu had pointed to there is a rolling ball of grass.
Kurando looks bored.
「Don't gave me that look. No matter who they are when one become a hunter they must hunt this fellow.」(Makushiimu)
「You mean they should hunt, not they have to hunt, right?」(Kurando)
「This here is magical grass. It probably can't use magic as it's just a ball of grass.」(Makushiimu)
「How is that dangerous?」(Kurando)
「Fundamentally it's harmless. Well, except to the grass and branches it picks up.」(Makushiimu)
「……*sigh*, it simply magical grass that is a nuisance.」(Kurando)
「Several times a year there will be a large-scale extermination carried out for these critters. Even so, there are still extermination request regular posted for

them. If not this area would become a desert.」(Makushiimu)
After Makushiimu said this, a Torabokku came rolling along. He took out his knife and cuts it in half.
In the center of the split Torabokku, there is a green stone.
「Follow my example and cut them in half. This green stone is the proof of subjugation. The green stone is worth money. After the extermination request is completed the association will not compensate you for the excess green stones……. if that ever happens you can pocket the extra. Well, sometimes it can't be helped as it's apart of being a hunter.」(Makushiimu)
「How much is one piece worth?」(Kurando)
「1 piece, huh? The market price it about 25 for 1 Rodo (一ロド). That's worth about one loaf of bread, perhaps? By the way, are you aware of the units for counting money.」(Makushiimu)
「Is that cheap? Units…… I don't know?」(Kurando)
「……do you even now your own identity; are you sure you didn't wash-up ashore somewhere?」(Makushiimu)
「Well, that's how it feels like to me.」(Kurando)
As they talk to one another a dry wind blows in their direction.

1 Rodo is worth one loaf of bread. Rodo is the banknote unit. (100 yen)
1 Rodo is 100 Shiruma (シルマ). Shiruma is the coin currency unit. (1 yen)
There is also a 10 Rodo note, and a 100 Rodo note.
In the wilderness, the man from the giant race takes out a banknote and coin to shown as an example.

Without much concern, Makushiimu hands over a hidden pouch fill with additional banknotes to Kurando.
「*Ahem*, I can't exactly give Akari custody to a coinless individual. Think of it as a request fee. Please watch over Akari while she is on the mountain until everything is sorted out. I'm counting on you.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu of all people carelessly forgot to give Kurando compensation. He laughs out loud and then places his giant-sized hand on Kurando's shoulders.
「I won't say no, but I won't make an empty promise.」(Kurando)
「Your surprisingly stern…… it reminds me of how Akari use to act.」(Makushiimu)
Upon hearing those words, the atmosphere around Kurando changed.

「Well, don’t mind me. I’ll keep up my end of the bargain.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu had a satisfied smile as he ran away into the wilderness.
「Are you running away! Is that why you’re half naked?」(Kurando)
He left Kurando alone in the middle of the wilderness.

「Now then, time to cut the grass?」(Kurando)
This situation truly felt like weeding a garden.
From his waist side, Kurando draws 1 of the 3 curved edge single-sword, Aromeri (アロメリ).
These 3 swords do not have a straight edge, but rather a curved zigzag like edge.
Kurando’s has in his possession a thick kukuri like katana, and 3 “L” shaped blades.
At first, the leather cover didn’t work well with the 3 curved edge single-sword, Aromeri. However, Kurando later discovered that with magic the blades could be used for long distance attacks instead.
Of course, these aren’t magic blades, but as an iron weapon, it serves its purpose as a useful single-hand tool. (T/N: above might be wrong, couldn’t figure out)
Kurando refers to the blade on his waist side as the kukuri katana.
He slowly walks through the wilderness.
His companion had already escaped and there doesn’t seem to be any need for him to hide.
Anyhow, they voluntarily approached Kurando.
Kurando cuts the Torabokku that happened to roll his way with the kukuri katana.
He made sure to cut deep enough for him to be able to extract its green stone.
Kurando repeats this process.
However.
After removing the green stone Kurando pondered what to do with it.
Around the waist of his worn-out uniform, there are 3 “L” shaped blades. In between his belt is a large knife, and the leather pouch with the paper notes/ bill. Kurando is carrying all of these on him.
Kurando stops thinking about it and places the green stone in the leather pouch along with the money. He ties the opening and then hangs the pouch around his waist.

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It seems the sun is directly above him.
Kurando's stomach rumbles.
He hasn't eaten anything since yesterday night. He tried tasting the green stone from the Torabokku.
Kurando splits out the green stone as it isn't edible.
After gathering about 100 of them Kurando decided to return back to the village.

In the middle of the wilderness, Kurando reflexives crouch down.
A giant bird the size of a person flew over him.

This world indeed has many hardships. The giant bird is attacking Kurando while he is close to the village. It hovers above Kurando.
It is a bird he has never seen. The bird is blue and it has a big sharp beak.
Kurando doesn't hesitate. He stays vigilant and observed that it is a large blue eagle.
It is not a person it is a beast.
This was something Kurando had to identify.
Should he hunt it, or should he not?

He plants the top portion of the "L" shaped kukuri katana into the ground.
Kurando begins to quietly strengthen it.
Magical beasts are sensitive to magic and are able to easily detect when it's used. Kurando learned this fact by observing Yukishiro-sensei tail when it stalked its prey.
While Kurando was mutter to himself the giant blue eagle dives at he from above.
Kurando times his swing to match the eagle's dive attack.
The large blue eagle twists its body in mid-air.
By twisting its body the eagle was able to escape from Kurando. Moments later, it moves back into higher altitudes.
Kurando throws the "L" shape blade like a boomerang at the re-approaching eagle.
The eagle loses the function of one of its wing.
It barely avoids the boomerang. The eagles violently sway about.
There——
——stuck in the base of its wing is the boomerang-like blade.

It struggles in the sky before plummeting to the ground.

Both bird and person are crouching.

Kurando removes the kukuri katana from the ground and cautiously approaches the giant blue eagle.

【*bird shriek*】

The blue eagle gets up; it charges at Kurando with its beak.

However, it wasn't fast enough; by chance, Kurando broke its wing and as he avoided the attack he slashed its neck.

Kurando puts distance between it and himself.

There is no need for him to deliver a finishing blow.

It's wings and neck are wounded; its injuries are fatal.

Kurando only needs to waits for the eagle to die.

– ToC –

Chapter 22: The Hunter Association ④

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２２ーハンター協会④

Chapter 22 – The Hunter Association ④

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Over there lays a splendid Azure Eagle, Sunibariooru (スニバリオール).
It was left in the association's cloakroom (Japanese style locker/storage room); the eye-catching eagle had gathered a crowd of hunters who happened to be on their lunch break.
It is firmly preserved in ice. There is a superstition among female hunters that claims the vivid blue color of the eagle can represent everlasting love.
It's considered a good omen to see an Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru) as it is said to bring a hunter good fortune.

The payment for the Torabokku (トラボック) request at the hunter association is equivalent to a child's pocket money.
That is why it is seen as something a child, a newcomer, or a talentless individual would bring to the hunter's HQ. And thus, such a payment is seen as normal.
The other hunters saw Kurando as a person from an unknown race that seems to be in their mid-twenties who wears worn-out clothes and has messy hair. They had thought Kurando to be a person without any talent.
Kurando hands over his dog tag and leaves the green stones on the counter. He turns to the direction of the person who rudely sneered at him.
He receives 4 Rodo for the green stones. Kurando wasn't bothered by the situation.
「Also, I was attacked by a magical beast while in the wilderness.」(Kurando)

Was it fate? The receptionist is the same person who registered Kurando as a hunter yesterday.
「If the magical beast doesn't have a request, then whether or not it is purchase will depend on what it is?」(staff member)
「Hmm, ah, okay. If I don't choose to sell it, would you mind looking after it for an hour?」(Kurando)
「I don't mind, but if a hunter does not return in half a day's time the ownership will be transferred to the hunter association, it that alright?」(staff member)
「Ah, that's fine by me. No less than half a day, right?」
Kurando drags the Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru) to the large open area, where goods are sold, to have a staff member evaluate it.
Although, he is strengthening his body Kurando is average in size and thus he had no other option but to drag it along.

The staff member is surprised to see the game Kurando had brought, an Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru).
The eagle is not powerful and it is not rare either. But, it is difficult for a 9th star, Rubinichia (ルビニチア), to even hunt one of them.
However, it is extremely difficult to subjugate one without damaging its beautiful blue color; so much so, that it is said to be a 1st-star rank level challenge.
If the eagle is killed with magic the color would fade and it would also have many wounds. And, for some reason when the eagle falls to its death it instantly becomes discolored. On the other hand, if one attacks halfheartedly it will simply fly away.
Upon examination, one of the eagle's wing was damaged and thus it must have slowly descended to the ground. It wasn't finished off with a blunt attack but instead, an artery was severed with a sharp weapon.
Wealthy upper-class women adore that deep blue color; therefore, many hunters try to carefully hunt the eagle.
「Well, can you put it in cold storage for me, and is there a deposit receipt?」(Kurando)
「Eh, ah, yes. Write your name here.」(staff member)
Kurando writes his name on both sections of the paper before handing it over to the other party.
「Umm, what is a "Sunibariooru (Azure Eagle)"?」(Kurando)

Upon seeing the deposit receipt Kurando mutters these words. Having fulfilled his main objective Kurando goes shopping.
The staff member who was left behind stared at the Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru) in the cold storage for quite some time.

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There are small shops lined up one after another on the straight road through the village. As Kurando walks in the opposite direction of the association he thinks to himself.
He thought that the Azure Eagle would be a good enough souvenir for the cranky Yukishiro.
Next, Kurando thought about any daily necessities he might need.
Most of his daily needs can be resolved with magic; however, Kurando is more concerned about the kinds of items they have for sale in this world's shops.
Surely, half the time spirit magic is very convenient; however, it is really difficult to make spirit magic do complex actions. Furthermore, using spirit magic really drains Kurando's maryoku and it leaves him exhausted.
At some point in time, the humans of this world incorporated the use of magic into their everyday life and thus that sort of lifestyle became normal.
Hatchet, knife, shovel, whetstone, large and small bags, needles, yarn, leather/hide clothing・trousers・boots, cotton and hemp shirts・under garments・rope, and a fur blanket. There were no recreational goods on sale in the shops.
Kurando still had the money that he received for sheltering Akari.
Although, Kurando felt that he cheated them when he accepted compensation for sheltering his fellow acquaintance from Japan. He feels regret.
This shop sells impure salt, cheap alcohol, a slightly expensive wheat flour, lumps of brown sugar, and peppers. A few red pepper are slightly expensive. There doesn't seem to be any other noteworthy spices.
The brown bread is darker in color and is harder, but it is inexpensive. The white bread is about double the price of the brown bread.
Kurando buys vegetable seeds that can be grown during the seasons. Of the vegetable seeds, he brought one of them resembles a potato, another an onion and the last a tomato. Although they were inexpensive, he wondered if they would sprout while planted on the mountain.
As Kurando mutters to himself as he is walking. The villagers that saw him

whispered something amongst themselves.
Those who encountered him saw Kurando as a dirty stranger with unkempt hair, worn-out clothes & shoes, carrying 3 weapons like item & a large amount of luggage.
Even in this frontier region where there are a large number of hunters, Kurando's appearance stood out.

Kurando returns to the hunter association in approximately an hour. In that time he was able to gather the gaze of countless villagers.
He goes through the swing door and moves over to the counter. The staff member that had assisted Kurando rushes to him.
Kurando tilted his head in puzzlement at the possibility of that staff member having grown attached to him.
「You've returned, yes?.」(staff member)
The staff member says this in a condescending tone.
「Has it been half a day?」(Kurando)
「……you——」(staff member)
「——are you the bastard that hunted that Sunibariooru (Azure Eagle)」(???)
The staff member was interrupted. Kurando is greeted by the voice of an arrogant and large man with blond hair.
While not yet knowing the circumstances Kurando nods.
「Hand it over.」(???)
「……I refuse as I'm taking it home with me.」(Kurando)
So to not be misunderstood Kurando clearly declines the man.
The person before Kurando is shocked by the unexpected refusal. For a few moments, they have a blank expression. Kurando understood what would happen next after he saw the person's frown. They will try to coerce him.
「Do you know who I am?」(???)
Kurando has a blank expression.
「Who are you?」(Kurando)
The staff member who is standing nearby waves Kurando over. They whisper something into Kurando's ear.
「……that is Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi (ザウル・ドミトール・ブラゴイ) it seems. Buragoi-same is a 4th star, Gabodoraddue (ガボドラッヅェ); he is the son of a former noble from the Buragoi family.」(staff member)

Kurando recalls the name Zauru. He couldn't help but recognize the person who had screwed over Akari.
「Now that you know, name your price.」(Zauru)
「I can't do that as I have my reasons.」(Kurando)
「……where are your manner toward a 4th star such as myself?」(Zauru)
Every part of Zauru's fair skin flushes as he tries to coerce Kurando.
While questioning the staff member, Kurando avoids looking into Zauru's eyes.
「Is there such a rule in the hunter association?」(Kurando)
「……there is not.」(staff member)
There are no rules that say a hunter must hand over their game to a higher rank hunter. Kurando glares while the staff member shakes their head no.
「I see.」(Kurando)
Kurando slightly bows before heading towards the location of the Azure Eagle. A bundle of banknotes is dropped at his feet.
Were they 100 Rodo, or 10 Rodo banknotes? The person didn't notice that Kurando had gone shopping today.
「That should be enough.」(Zauru)

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Upon receiving a notice that Makushiimu had left the mountain, Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi leaves the brothel. Despite having waited all day for him, Makushiimu is no longer at the hunter association.
Zauru had heard that Makushiimu had just returned to the inn last night; however, Zauru could only clench his teeth in frustration upon discovering that Makushiimu had already left.
Although Zauru did learn that the hero, Akari's, whereabouts are still unknown and that Makushiimu had recommended some guy named Kurando to be a hunter.
When Zauru went to inquire more about the man at the association, he saw a splendid Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru) in the storage site.
Zauru then learned that the eagle had been hunted by that same man and that they will be returning soon.
Coincidentally, Zauru's younger sister's wedding is closely approaching. He thought it wasn't such a bad idea to decorate her dress in the eagle's deep blue color as it is a symbol of well-being.

And thus, Zauru thought it would be a good idea to wait for that man.

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「I said, I won't sell!」(Kurando)
Kurando says this to Zauru who is standing in the way.
As he blocks the way, Zauru fiddles with his blond hair because he doesn't have a mustache. Zauru has an Anglo-Saxon appearance giving him very masculine features. He stands one-full-head taller than Kurando, and his muscles are properly toned. Zauru has on a superior quality silk shirt, trouser, and cloak; around his hip is a short sword. His attire gives him an elegant hunter like appearance.
However, to Kurando, Zauru's eyes seemed clouded with an air of superiority; therefore, Kurando saw Zauru as a cluster of self-importance.
「Should I raise the amount? Although, there is no way a 10th star (Ruterera) could have hunt it. You must've encountered the Azure Eagle after it died. It isn't good to bath in your own self-satisfaction.」(Zauru)
Kurando wonders how that has anything to do with him not wanting to sell.
The eagle is rightfully Yukishiro's souvenir. Without this present Kurando wonders, how much will Yukishiro wag its tail in protest? (T/N: how does Kurando expect to get the eagle up a mountain.)
「I don't plan on selling.」(Kurando.)
Zauru draws closer to the obstinate Kurando.
「Listen here, Hunters would be lost without this village, no this country.」(Zauru)
Coming from Zauru that is a threat.
「Do as you like. This country isn't particularly needed, and a hunter isn't something that is necessary either.」(Kurando)
This isn't Japan. Kurando has no obligations or duties here. And, words won't solve problems here.
The power of words won't reach his lordship, Zauru, as it seems that there aren't any misunderstandings in this conversation. This time isn't any different from the heart pounding moment Kurando first meet Makushiimu. It won't be a problem no matter which country Kurando is in.
However, as the saying goes one shouldn't underestimate a cornered raccoon. Kurando's practically said that he doesn't have a problem leaving the country.

Zauru became more and more agitated; he places his hand on the short sword at his hip.
Kurando places down his baggage and prepares himself for anything.
The situation can no longer be stopped.

「——h-hey, please wait!」(???)

– ToC –

Chapter 23: The Hunter Association ⑤

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２３ーハンター協会⑤

Chapter 23 – The Hunter Association ⑤

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The person from yesterday who has a strange relationship with Kurando was the one who had raised their voice.

The staff member's and Kurando's height isn't much different. But, their body is thin and lanky. The staff member has on a white shirt and navy blue trousers. Their stern businessman like facial expression doesn't change despite having the appearance of an ordinary middle age staff member one could find anywhere. (T/N: gender not stated, yet)

This man, regardless of whether or not he wants to, his duty at the hunter association is to address the conflict and mediate a solution between the two. It is a big problem that Zauru (ザウル) is going into a mad frenzy. The commanding officer『white spear (白槍)』had left the newcomer (Kurando) in his care. And thus, the staff member had prepared himself to intervene.

The other staff members that are watching this unfold felt relieved as they didn't have to be the one to stop them.

The staff member made his voice heard and places himself in between the two. Although, it is his obligation that didn't stop the staff member from breaking out into a cold sweat.

「Za, Zauru-sama which parts are necessary?」(staff member)

Zauru somewhat calms down and he removes his hand away from the short-sword.

「……the feathers, the beak, and eyes.」(Zauru)
「Kurando-san, which parts do you need?」(staff member)
As the staff member mutters this to Kurando's ear, Kurando questions why must he negotiation.
(Zauru-sama is the son of a member of the Dorugan parliament. This situation is problematic. Is negotiating in Kurando's best interest?)
Although feeling dissatisfied Kurando answers.
「The meat and several long feathers.」(Kurando)
The staff member forcibly brings his hands together (clap hands together).
「Hey, Kurando-san, please sell Zauru the feathers, the beak, and the eyes for a good price.」(staff member)
After the staff member said this the people who are present move their line-of-sight to Kurando. Their gaze gathered to him.
「……fine, but dismantle it at the association.」(Kurando)
Kurando merely says a few words. How many times had he sighed during this exchange?
「Understood, as you wish it will be dismantled at the association.」(staff member)
Zauru says nothing more. It is unwise to cause any more disturbance at the association. Above all, he wants a congratulatory gift for his younger sister's wedding. And, Zauru didn't want it to be just any cheap gift.
Afterwards, a specialist was requested to dismantle the Azure Eagle, Sunibariooru (スニバリオール).
Unbeknownst to Kurando, the specialist happens to be one of the heroes. (T/N: no more information)

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From the Azure Eagle (Sunibariooru), Zauru will receive the vivid blue feathers on its body, its beak, and its eyes.
Along with all the meat, Kurando will receive the 3 long feathers that are about arms length. Zauru will pay Kurando 1,000 Rodo (about 100,000 Yen).

「Kurando-san, have you setup an account at the association?」(staff member)
Before handing over the payment for the Azure Eagle the staff member asks Kurando this question.

「Which town or countries can it be used in?」(Kurando)
「It can be accessed anywhere there is a hunter association branch. The association also provides a currency exchange service.」(staff member)
「If that is the case, I would like to make one.」(Kurando)
Kurando passes over his dog tag and the money that Makushiimu (マクシーム) had given him.
The staff member is startled to see the bundle of banknotes, but somehow they were able to stay calm. They accept the dog tag and the bundle of banknotes.
And just like that things proceeded.
「The current balance in your account is 27,000 Rodo.」(staff member)
His dog tag is returned. Kurando gathers his baggage and puts away the long feathers & meat. He exits the association building.
Kurando left the building with a weary expression on his face.
While Kurando was still inside the building, he felt the unpleasant gaze that Zauru had been given him the entire time they were there.
After leaving Kurando feels slightly relieved.

Kurando returns to the inn without taking any detours. He puts down his baggage and crawls into bed despite the sun still being up.
He plans to depart tomorrow morning despite leaving the room mostly vacant today. It was a short stay as it wasn't too long ago that he received this reserved room. After the white phantom subjugation incident, Kurando had felt somewhat anxious about coming to this inn.

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The sun had not fully risen as inside the inn was still dim. So to not wake the other guest Kurando quietly left the inn. Kurando wondered if there are any other guest aside from him that are leaving the inn around this time.
Although Kurando had brought a linen shirt & leather boots, he still feels cold. Kurando shivers.
He uses a little magic to strengthen his body. Kurando carries the large number of luggage on his back. He makes preparation before his departure into the mountain.
As it was too early in the day there were no new requests posted.
Kurando stares at the unaccepted request. He tears off one sheet and brings it

to the reception counter.
「Can this request be turned in at any time?」(Kurando)
The unfamiliar staff member who appears sleepy reads over the request.
「……hmm, 1 year, or half a year ago, after accepting this request you will have approximately 1 month to turn-it-in…… are you taking that request?」(unfamiliar staff member)
Kurando nods and then hands over his dog tag. The staff member who is watching him has a surprised expression.
「Free request may not have a rank requirement, but you're still currently a Ruterera (10th star).」(unfamiliar staff member)
If several months pass without a posted request being accepted, with the client's permission it can be changed to a free request.
「It shouldn't be against the rule.」(Kurando)
「That isn't it. But, I must inform you that this request was originally for a 4th star, Gobodoraddzue (ガボドラッヅェ), or 2 ranks lower.」(unfamiliar staff member)
「May I ask as to why this request was left uncompleted for so long?」(Kurando)
Kurando inquires more information about the request from the staff member.
「It is embarrassing…… but, well, alright.」(unfamiliar staff member)
It is about time for the shift of the sleepy staff member to end. The request Kurando chosen is processed and then he is brief about that particular request.

After taking the request Kurando departs from the village.
Behind the villages is the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain range. Kurando looks up towards the mountain. Having been gone for quite some time, he felt homesick.
He wonders how Yukishiro and Akari are fairing.
Kurando stops thinking about it and heads toward the forest at the base of Arerudouria mountain.

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A group of men chased after the person that they had become familiar with. Among the numerous wannabe hunters that are Zauru's protege, one of them isn't a hunter.
The hunters divide the Arerudouria mountain range into 3 areas. Around the

foot of the mountain is the『forest zone (森林帯)』. Next is the『subalpine zone (亜高山帯)』; this is where the giant thorny spider, Atorabashiku (アトラバシク) resides. And, lastly the 3rd and final area is the『alpine zone (高山帯)』; this is where the white phantom is said to reside.
It was sundown by the time Kurando exited the forest zone and reached the campsite in the subalpine zone.
The men chasing after Kurando are considerable tired. Despite Kurando carrying more baggage than them, they couldn't keep up with him. However, it wasn't like their mobility was any different from ordinary hunters.
While Kurando made his way through the forest he had been whistling.
Kurando defied the common sense of hunters. The unfamiliar tone that he was whistling got on the men's nerves. They are irritated. By the time they reached the campsite, they are all glaring.

The sun had set and the fire spirits Kurando used had decreased.
Kurando gradually erased the fire spirits.
Only the moon's faint blue light can be seen on the mountain. This place had become the domain of the dark.
The wind stops.
An arrow flies toward Kurando's location.
In succession 2, 3 more arrows are fired to that location.
Kurando didn't move.
Shortly after the group of men when to examine the campground with the light from fire spirits.
They shine the light on Kurando.
Kurando violently convulses and collapses.
The light illuminating the shadow literally causes it to fall apart. The shadow vanished.
「Shit! Where did he go? It's only a Ruterera (10th star), search the area!」(??? A)
「Seriously, you want us to search around in the middle of the night. Didn't those guys who followed after Makushiimu got attacked by an Atorabashiku (giant thorny spider) around here?」(??? B)
「Were they really attacked by a spider? It could've been that they got ambushed by that guy.」(??? A)

「Now, now, calm down. It doesn't matter how many lives you may have as it is dangerous to move around in the dark. That also applies to that guy.」(??? B)
One of the men clicks their tongue. Today they will give up the pursuit.
They can only wish that the newcomer will become spider feed.

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Why didn't Kurando call for Yukishiro by whistling?
Because, he didn't want to expose his connection to Yukishiro.
Kurando had noticed that Yukishiro's five sense already far outstrips his human senses.
And thus, that night.
When Kurando had noticed that he was being followed, he prepared a shadow substitute in advance. Normally on this dark trail, one person and one animal would be lead forward by relying on Yukishiro's five senses. As Yukishiro is able to sense what a human cannot; it can see the webs of an Atorabashiku and avoid it.
Kurando must pass through this area without Yukishiro's assistance.
It took him twice as long to get past the subalpine zone than usual.
Before long the sky began to brighten up.

Akari had already awoken by the time he reached the cave.
Kurando restlessly looks around. Perhaps, he is searching for Yukishiro.
She wasn't use to see Kurando around; therefore, Akari slightly paused before greeting him.
Kurando goes up the slope towards Akari. He finds a rock to sit down on to catch his breath.
「Janitor-san, good morning. How are you?」(Akari)
「Ah, here is a souvenir. Uh, I've registered at the association. And, umm, I don't mind if you stop addressing me so formally.」(Kurando)
Kurando puts down his baggage. He retrieves the tail feathers and hands it to Akari. (T/N: is that a marriage proposal, Harvestmoon reference)
「Umm, *Kurando-san*? It sure is a beautiful blue, yes. Are these from a Sunibariooru (Azure Eagle)?」(Akari)
「So you already knew, as expected of a senior hunter.」(Kurando)
「P-please stop kidding around. Although I've spotted them flying in the sky a few times, this is the first time I've seen one of their feathers up close.」(Akari)

Kurando felt something staring at him from behind. He turns around. Kurando sees Yukishiro pouting. It is sitting with its back facing Kurando. Its tail is silent.
「Yukishiro, there is no need to pout, I also have something for you.」(Kurando)
Kurando placed the long azure blue feather on top of Yukishiro's head.
……is that all? Yukishiro's eyes soon expressed its displeasure.
「Its a joke.」(Kurando)
Kurando quickly brings out the meat of the Azure Eagle that had been divided into blocks.
Yukishiro begins to sniff the meat that was presented to it. It didn't particularly care for the head and the wing. Yukishiro bites into its first block of meat.
As expected from a magical beast. It can eat frozen meat similar to how a human can eat freshly sliced salmon, perhaps.
「Were you the one who subjugated this?」(Akari)
Before answering Akari, Kurando confirmed that Yukishiro wasn't in a bad mood due to the joke.
「Umm, ah, it attacked me after I had finished hunting Torabokku(s). Fortunately, I killed it before it could kill me. So, why must newcomers hunt Torabokku(s)?」(Kurando)
Akari's cheeks became stiff.
「Your first real hunt was a Suibariooru; it might be fate. With that kind of skill there is no way you're at the level of a rookie hunter.」(Akari)
「From here on this will be Yukishiro's treasure. Now that I think about it this is the first time that I have fought alone. If I think about it, it's fairly touching……」(Kurando)
Kurando held the feather, that he kept for himself, up towards the sky and stares at it.
The sun shines on the pure blue feather and it shimmers.
「Did you sell the other feathers? It could be made into clothes. Hmm, there sure are a lot of baggage.」(Akari)
Kurando is troubled by what Akari had said. He looks away from the feather.
「Nope, there was a troublesome guy——」(Kurando)
Afterwards, Kurando informs them of the events that occurred after he descended down the mountain.

As Kurando talks, in the background Yukishiro has a satisfied expression as it

cheerfully bites into its second block of meat. Although the flavor isn’t rich, the texture is light and crunchy.

– ToC –

Chapter 24: Home ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２４ー家①

Chapter 24 – Home ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

After hearing the story Akari clearly frowns.

Anyone would be upset upon hearing about the person that had wronged them.

「Later, I'm sleepy.」(Kurando)

Kurando gets off the rock. He picks up the numerous amount of luggage and the third block of meat that had been given to Yukishiro.

Yukishiro looks up at Kurando with a bitter facial expression.

「I'll barbecue it for you later, alright? I've bought salt, you see.」(Kurando)

Yukishiro's groaned, but its bitter facial expression slightly wavers. Kurando and Akari walked to the cave.

Yukishiro doesn't know about salt. In anticipation, it decided to wait for the meat and the meaning behind Kurando's words.

Kurando retrieved a wolf pelt and some sort of cotton blanket from his baggage. He spreads the wolf pelt on the ground; Kurando lays down on the pelt and covers himself with the blanket.

「……why has the "hunter" purchased his fur?」(Akari)

Akari says this while being amazed.

「I don't know how to skillfully skin and tan a pelt. As it was too troublesome, I gave up.」(Kurando)

「Then what did you do while it was winter?」(Akari)

「When I was alone, I either used fire spirits or covered myself with soil using

earth spirits. And, after meeting Yukishiro it became fairly warmer.」(Kurando)
Having heard Kurando say absurd things, Akari felt lightheaded.
「Ah, Yukishiro are you here? Come lay down.」(Kurando)
No reply came for Yukishiro. Kurando is laying there on the ground.
He makes a loud yawn.
「……*yawn*, feel free to look for something suitable from among the baggage. Well, I'm unaware about female fashion so don't expect too much.」(Kurando)
After saying so, Kurando fell asleep.

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By the time Kurando woke up it was almost dusk.
In the opposite corner of the room, he saw Akari maintaining a fire made from fire spirits.
「Huh, have you finished going through the baggage?」(Kurando)
「That isn't it. I have no reason to rummage through another person's belongings.」(Akari)
Akari dispersed the fire spirits and moves towards Kurando.
「Ah, my bad. Sorry for the wait.」(Kurando)
「No problem, I was just killing time anyways.」(Akari)
Kurando moves the baggage over to the corner where the moss-green rucksack is always located. He leaves the fireplace.
And thus, Kurando realized something upon Akari saying "killing time".
「Ah, sorry. My departure was so suddenly that I forgot to inform you. What did you have to eat?」(Kurando)
「You've done me a great favor by sheltering me. Although while off the mountain I'm also a hunter, Yukishiro-san had brought back various games for me to eat. I'm not familiar with this area so I'd been indulging in Yukishiro's kindness.」(Akari)
「Ahaha, don't worry about. I had already accepted the reward and I have a promise to keep. So, there is no need to excuse yourself. Well, maybe, have you told this to Yukishiro?」(Kurando)
「It is disappointing to say, but I haven't. It delivers me meals and watches over me despite being in the morning. Above all…… it doesn't want to get along with me.」(Akari)
"Ah~sorry, let me explain." Kurando stands up; the confused Akari also stood up.

「*Ahem*, onto other matters. This area is the toilet and the bathroom.」(Kurando)
Kurando touches a spot in the middle of the passageway; something like a door opens and a big hole is revealed.
Inside that room, Kurando creates some fire spirits. Akari hears a “clunking sound”, and before her eyes, an oblong bathtub appears. That sound came from the earth that was being compressed nearby.
「Eh!?」(Akari)
Akari responded by being slightly surprised. Kurando continues.
「As for water spirit magic, the water will be made from the snow outside, okay. Afterward, the water’s temperature can be adjusted with fire spirit magic. And, the toilet is across from here…… I know it’s crudely made, right?」(Kurando)
As if he was talking to himself Kurando goes over to where the toilet is and made another hole appear.
A Japanese style toilet bowl is located there. (T/N: janitor-san anyone)
However, the toilet hole is very deep as the bottom cannot be seen.
「At first it was a western style toilet, but Yukishiro prefers cleanliness. As that would be difficult to do with a western style toilet, it was then switched to a Japanese style toilet. After doing one’s business the toilet is washed with water spirit magic and then dried with wind spirit magic. And finally, to prevent odors earth spirit magic is used before covering the hole back up. I apologize if I’m being insensitive.」(Kurando)
「I-it’s fine, but——」(Akari)
「——I see, can you step away from there for a moment?」(Kurando)
Akari approaches Kurando’s side; she shows an expression similar to a deceiving fox. Kurando places his hand on the wall near the toilet.
From where Kurando’s hand is touching the earth is being shaved away. The wall is made to take the same shape as the entrance of the bathroom. And thus, the wall is being penetrated & burrowed into.
Bits and pieces of earth are being compressed and falls to the ground. The earth droppings are transferred to the toilet hole.
「Is this better?」(Kurando)
「Umm, sorry for the trouble.」(Akari)
Upon realizing Kurando’s intention Akari apologizes. If the bathroom and the toilet are connected various incidents might arise. To prevent such things from

happening he separated the toilet and the bathtub. (T/N: it didn't outright say it but I think he made another bathroom)

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「Shall we move on?」(Kurando)

Kurando exits the bathroom and then he places his hand on the wall in front of him.

Once again another hole opens up. This time, Akari feels cold air.

Kurando creates light spirits in the room; the light spirits float around inside the room.

The spectacle takes Akari's breath away.

「This place is the storage area where Yukishiro's parent had left its game/prey.」(Kurando)

There are magical beast of various sizes frozen in ice. The ice doesn't appear to be melting because the room's temperature is below freezing. Although the room is filled with persevered food, it looks like a museum housing fossils.

「……Rirobeechi (リロベーチ) [Ice Polar Bear], Gigapurooza (ギガプローザ) [Large Horned Mountain Sheep], Ragubarika (ラグバリカ) [Great Thunder Duck], Guakoba (グアコバ) [Dome-Head Boar], Barobashishiri (バロバシシリ) [Great Horn Monitor Lizard]. There are also plenty of others that I haven't seen before.」(Akari)

「I don't know the names.」(Kurando)

「It kept a collection of Serurobi (セルロビ) [3rd star] and Gabodorattsue (ガボドラッツェ) [4th star] rank magical beast. It is unfortunate that the Iruniiku (イルニーク) had died.」(Akari)

「……will Zauru try to hunt an Iruniiku?」(Kurando)

「That is probably impossible for him. And, that is mostly the same for any of his companions. I doubt Zauru could hunt one even if he had 10 other people. For example, to hunt an Iruniiku without Makushiimu-san, all the party members except for the commanding officer needs to be at least a Serurobi (3rd star).」(Akari)

「Isn't Zauru suppose to be a Gabodorattsue (4th star)?」(Kurando)

「It seems Zauru had hired excellent hunters to help raise his rank. Personally, I think he is at the level of a Beruchigaba (ベルチガバ) [6th star].」(Akari)

「Hmm, would you be able to hunt Yukishiro?」(Kurando)

「I don’t know because I’m not aware of Yukishiro-san present strength. But, an Iruniiku is an existence that Serurobi(s) [3rd star] must make careful preparations before they can hunt it. I think that an average Iruniiku would be a very difficult magical beast to challenge solo. That particular Iruniiku is somewhat outside the average. Perhaps it won’t be long before it becomes an average size Iruniiku. There are no records of their largest recorded size.」(Akari)
Kurando takes an interest in Akari’s explanation. Akari shivers.
「Ah, excuse me, but it is cold here.」(Akari)
And thus, the light spirits lead the way to the exit. After they left the hole was shut.

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「Over there is my workshop & laboratory area.」(Kurando)
They return to the room where the fireplace is located. A hole is opened up across from where Yukishiro is sleeping.
「Please hurry inside so I can shut the opening. You see, Yukishiro hates the smell from there.」(Kurando)
Akari did as she was informed and hurried inside.
Kurando closed the opening. The light spirits float to the ceiling.
「This is somewhat suspicious…… you’re not doing anything illegal, right?」(Akari)
Kurando is looked upon by Akari’s scornful gaze.
Green & purple, blue fluid & fine powder inside clay jars. An unfinished magic pentagram, horns & fangs, thread, and bits of fur scattered about.
「W-well it was all for self-defense. Look over there, it is a target, it is a good place to practice archery and magic.」(Kurando)
「……umm, that seems nice.」(Akari)
The room is designed with enough depth to test projectiles.
「Huh, Janitor-san, you can use a bow?」(Akari)
Akari looks around the room; she didn’t see a bow or arrows.
「I can’t make a bow & arrows so instead I use a boomerang together with magic.」(Kurando)
Kurando picks up the “L” shaped boomerang that had been laid aside; he throws it.
The boomerang moves in a straight line and sticks into a clay doll; the clays doll’s head is pulverized.

「Is that an Aromeri (アロメリ) [three-edge hunting sword]?」(Akari)
(T/N: I think the “Aromeri” is a boomerang, for some reason, it’s called a 3-edge sword)
「Is that what it’s called; is it well know?」(Kurando)
「Renown, huh? Well, long ago it was used by an ethnic group; however, now it is seen as a high-class relic that any 6th-star hunter should be able to somewhat use. It’s not usually seen being used in colder regions.」(Akari)
「Well, truthfully I don’t know the details.」(Akari)
Kurando felt a sort of admiration towards Akari. That made her feel embarrassed.
「At an academy, I studied this world basic knowledge and writing for half a year. Afterward, I spent 1 year learning about being a hunter. To my surprise, I never thought I would enjoy working as a hunter.」(Akari)
「Can you write in this world’s language?」(Kurando)
「Yes. Janitor-san, aside from speaking this world’s language can you read it?」(Akari)
「Ah, as I thought; all of the summoned people can automatically understand this world’s language, right?」(Kurando)
「That’s right. The people of this world don’t possess such ability or magic. Although, they might be concealing such autonomous magic. But, this Japanese to English like translation is idiotic!」(Akari)
「Is that so, by the way, is 1 year equal to 400 days?」(Kurando)
「Eh, uh, was it? That sounds about right. It wasn’t written in the magic textbook. To be accurate it’s 406 days as there is no leap year. The days are counted as——」(Akari)
「——*growl*」(???)
A roar is heard. The room’s entrance suddenly opens.
Yukishiro wants to eat that bird from before.
「……lunchtime, huh?」(Kurando)
「Yup.」(Akari)
Akari thought, “the master of the home is, Yukishiro.”

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Kurando takes his position at the fireplace. He seasons the Azure Eagle meat with the salt that he bought. The slices of meat are placed close to the fire

spirits.
There is about a thumb length worth of oil poured into a pot made of earth. Salt and pepper are mixed with the meat before it is covered with flour. After the oil had become heated the meat was put into the pot.
The Azure Eagle's bones, edible plants, and water are added to a clay pot. The pot is covered with an air-tight lid. Kurando is making a stew. He raises the heat on the pot that causes the fire to turn blue.
「How may I help?」 (Akari)
「Oh, can you place the deep fried food on the plates.」 (Kurando)
Akari gets the clay plates and the wooden chopsticks.
The fire heating the pressure cooking pot weakens. Kurando makes a hole in the pot. The steam that comes out makes a high pitch noise.
After the steam is let out Kurando removes the pot's lid. He removes the bones, lye, and the edible plants. Salt is added to the stew.
The stew is put into a bowl. Kurando passes the brown bread he had bought to Akari. Akari finishes placing the deep fried food onto the plates.

「It has been a long time since I had a normal looking meal (human/people food).」 (Kurando)
Bird soup and deep fried meat along brown bread, Kurando approval this meal by nodding.
The well-done roasted meat is ferried over to Yukishiro. It squints its eyes as it savors the food while it eats.
「Huh?」 (Kurando)
Akari has a surprised expression on her face.
「A surprising method of cooking. Leaving that aside, you used quite a few basic spirit magic; but how much maryoku did you use? It seems you used up a lot.」 (Akari)

– ToC –

Chapter 25: Home ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２５ー家②
Chapter 25 – Home ②

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

In the other world approximately 580 days had passed before Kurando encountered Akari.
After he had been summoned, Kurando had been exhausting all of his maryoku almost every day.
In those 580 days for 180 of those days (two seasons worth), Kurando was unable to leave the cave because of winter. During those 180 days, Kurando had exhausted his maryoku 360 times (3 times per day). Every time Kurando had exhausted his maryoku he felt a random symptom of either joint pain, a sore throat, a throbbing pain, or shortness of breath.
Before, when he had a small pool of maryoku, after resting for 8 hours all his maryoku would be replenished. However, now when Kurando rest for that long only half of his maryoku is restored. It is not difficult to imagine that the maximum capacity of Kurando's maryoku pool had been increasing along.

When Kurando told her this Akari's mouth mimics the action of a goldfish's mouth opening & closing.
「Now then, eat while the food is still warm.」(Kurando)
After saying so, Kurando picks up his plate.
The meat is crunchy despite it oozing oil.
After one year and a half, Kurando can savor the taste of salt and pepper once again.

He reaches for the soup.
The soup had been made quickly. As the edible plants had erased the odor from the bird meat, it tasted simply like salt and pepper.
Because the bread was made to be preserved it is tough.
Kurando tears off a part of the brown bread and dips it into the soup before eating it.
The bread that had absorbed the salty flavor from the soup was delicious.
「Hmm, it is neither bad nor good.」(Kurando)
The food was made by a guy; so, for Kurando to say that it tasted alright is somewhat bias of him.
Although Akari made an expression that said otherwise, she begins to eat.
「……delicious.」(Akari)
She wholeheartedly began to eat, but perhaps Akari's compliment was a little exaggerated. Although, Akari's comment wasn't surprising because she probably found the meat that Yukishiro gave her to be an unsuitable meal.

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For a while, they ate in silence before Akari spoke up.
「Is it really truth that you had exhausted your maryoku every day?」(Akari)
His hand that is holding chopsticks stops moving. Kurando nods.
Akari's face slightly tenses up.
「Was it similar to muscle training?」(Akari)
「Nope, totally different. It was more like putting my life on the line.」(Kurando)
Kurando gave her his honest opinion.
「I wouldn't endorse this practice. In the first place, no one should be trying this method. When one's maryoku is exhausted it decreases the function of one's internal organs and body functions. One wrong step and you could die. Lifeforce is needed for a person's organs to function properly. If you think about it lifeforce and maryoku are one and the same. Normally you should always leave a little maryoku in reserve; even without exhausting all of your maryoku your maximum pool should still increase. And, that way there should not be any pain.」(Kurando)
「Eh~」(Akari)
「Aren't you taking things too lightly!」(Kurando)
「Not at all, I may faint but I'll still be alive afterward. I see no problem, but.」

(Akari)
「I-it was merely a coincidence…… nothing more. To exhaust one's maryoku 1,000 times is risking one's life l,000 times……」(Kurando)
They both tilted their head.
Kurando is different from the residences of this world. His body was blessed with maryoku; it is unknown as to whether or not his body is something in between flesh and maryoku.
On Earth maryoku didn't exist; Kurando had to preserve his flesh with the strength of his own body. However, when he had exhausted his maryoku his maximum capacity had increased and it merely ended with his vessel experiencing pain.
It could be said that Akari and those who were summoned are different from the native inhabitants of this world. Those who were summoned received the same magic practice as the residences of this world. But, what if the same training method wasn't suitable for those summoned people. The training mention that Kurando underwent was something the residences of this world would never have dreamt up.
Afterall, even Kurando cannot verify nor test this method.

「It is said that there are certain affinities that are not compatible for the hunter occupation. So, how practical is the aptitude test?」(Kurando)
「Did you receive the aptitude test?」(Akari)
「Ah, if I recall——」(Kurando)
「——wait」(Akari)
Kurando recalls the result of his spirit affinity aptitude test.
「Darkness, then ice, followed by earth, water, wind, lightning, and then fire & lastly light. My highest affinity by a large margin is darkness, and my worst affinity by a large margin is light.」(Kurando)
「……Ah, I see. If that is the case then, perhaps the rules of spirit magic is in opposition to the hunter association's affinity test. Perhaps, it is just as Makushiimu-san (マクシーム) had said. Spirit magic shouldn't be treated the same as autonomous magic because autonomous magic relies on tools and weapons. It could be said that spirit magic instead relays on the body.」(Akari)
「My thoughts exactly. So, Akari what is your affinity aptitude?」(Kurando)
「Before that, I should first inform you about aptitude. In this world one's ability

and affinity is suppose to be confidential as in this world it is a security issue.」(Akari)
Akari said this in a overpowering and serious tone; the pressure caused Kurando to nod.
「Haha, excuse me. If that is the case then——」(Kurando)
「——putting that aside, Janitor-san…… Kurando-san as you had told me, I will tell you mine. My highest affinity is light. And then, followed by lightning, fire, wind, water, ice, earth, and my worst affinity is darkness.」(Akari)
「Although, it's a little different we're almost polar opposites.」(Kurando)
Akari shows a slightly troubled expression.
「As a matter of fact excluding you, Kurando-san, there's only one other person among those who were summoned that stands out. In a way it could be said that having a high affinity with darkness spirits and ice spirits it a bad thing.」(Akari)
「Who is the exception?」(Kurando)
「……Ichihara (一原, いちはら) Hayato-san (颯人, はやと).」(Akari)
Kurando raises his eyebrows.
「It isn't easy to say, but Ichihara-san has two divine blessings. His first blessing, Hayato would casually refer to it as『holy (聖剣)』sword; I don't know the details only the name. The other is a very famous blessing.」(Akari)
Akari places her chopsticks together; she appears to have finished eating.
「……『the spirit's beloved (精霊の最愛)』. It lets a person bond (ボニー) with spirits, see spirits, hear the voices of the spirits, and it lets them touch the spirits. Not including dark spirit affinity; he had set a new record for the highest aptitude with all spirit affinity in the history of Eripusu (エリプス).」(Akari)
「……so, in other words he can invoke the highest grade of magic in all affinities except for darkness?」(Kurando)
Kurando had thoroughly studied the magic textbook.
To invoke the highest grade of spirit magic one requires both inner・external factors.
The average person only has one affinity that they are the most compatible with. Perhaps, Hayato's inability to use dark spirit magic resulted in him gaining the ability to use the highest grade magic.
「I wonder why he has a low affinity with darkness? Based on the name of the second blessing, he should have a high affinity with all spirits.」(Kurando)

「My guess is, it has something to do with the effect of his other blessing.」 (Akari)
「So, 『holy』 sword, might in some way have an adverse effect on his affinity with darkness. Well, who could say for sure as that is his business? By the way——」 (Kurando)
「——do you really find the matter trivial?」 (Akari)
Akari seriously wants to know Kurando's opinion.
「……so what, that's just how it is——」 (Kurando)
「——you seriously don't want to know!?」 (Akari)
Akari carefully observes Kurando.
Kurando lets out a big sigh.
「……to be honest, I don't like it.」 (Kurando)
Her eye shows a hint of regret.
「However, the matter has no solution. It is pointless for me to hold any resentment. To resent, is to be resented in return. And, above all this world is at peace. I couldn't have the life I wanted in Japan so I thought about enjoying my fresh start here. Therefore, honestly I don't want anything to do with that guy and I definitely don't want to be involved in anything troublesome.」 (Kurando)
「……sorry.」 (Akari)
「Well, to be honest, I have a feeling that I'm already involved in something troublesome. People are the same no matter which world they exist in. Although, it is true that I'm curious about what happened to the other people who were summoned. It is understandable; therefore, you aren't wrong Akari. Besides, before everything had happened, you were merely 16 years old and still a young woman in high school.」 (Kurando)
「……」 (Akari)
「However——」 (Kurando)
Kurando paused; he shows a cold-hearted expression that gave Akari the impression she was being pricked with a thin needle.

「——I won't forgive him, I will never forgive him, that much I can say for sure.」 (Kurando)
Kurando will never forgot that moment when it was stolen, and he will never forgot the facial expression of everyone who was there when it happened.
Their conversation ended and the meal was over.

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After they cleaned up, Akari helped Kurando sort out his baggage.
An iron hatchet, a knife, and a shovel are placed in the corner of the room. The rope, a sack, and a leather bag is hung on the wall.
Salt, cheap alcohol, lumps of brown sugar, and chili peppers are put into the moss-green rucksack. As long as they are in the rucksack items similar to the french bread like preserved ration and the water will not expire.
By the way, the magic textbook and the large knife that had come out of the rucksack can no longer be put back inside the rucksack. Only food can be placed inside the rucksack; also, large objects cannot be placed into the rucksack.
Kurando had experimented with the rucksack and discovered that certain items cannot be stored inside the rucksack.
「Umm, what is this? I don't see the items that have been placed inside.」(Akari)
「This? In the beginning, there was a year worth of food & water inside this rucksack. By the way, it had only contained one person's portions worth. It can store food inside. It's similar to a magic bag/ item box.」(Kurando)
「Such a thing doesn't exist. Although they do sell tools for autonomous magic, I have never heard of magic tools.」(Akari)
「Hahaha, my divine blessing is this『food rucksack』…… it's nothing special, but it is reliable.」(Kurando)
For a moment Akari felt sorry towards the boasting Kurando.
「……I was hesitant to say this, but one of the 2nd year students has the blessing『item box』. As their ability doesn't seem to have any restrictions, they work in transport・trade.」
「……」(Kurando)

There are linen & cotton shirts・undergarments, trousers and pelts for both Kurando and Akari. The pieces of clothing are all unisex; although, the size do differ.
「S-sorry, for all the trouble.」(Akari)
Akari shows her feminine side; she blushes and then bows.
Naturally, Akari finds it embarrassing to have a guy go out and buy underwear for her. (T/N: cough, cough "buy her underwear")
「A bath would be nice as you've been wearing the same thing since the day before.」(Kurando)

Akari blushed. She runs to the bathroom while holding a change of clothes.

Kurando is hit with a tail from behind.

He turns around. Yukishiro looks at him with an expression that implies it has many things it wants to say to him.

– ToC –

Chapter 26: Good Mood

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２６ーご機嫌取り

Chapter 26 – Good Mood

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Akari exits the bathroom. Kurando and Yukishiro entered the bathroom. After bathing Yukishiro, Kurando gave it a thorough brushing.
Yukishiro was not pleased with the new brush that Kurando had purchased. The “aromeri (三剣角鹿, アロメリ)” brush/comb was given to Akari. The comb wasn’t by any means fancy; it was nothing a girl/woman would desire. (T/N: “aromeri” seems to be Author-san’s go to word for the number “3”; by the way that’s gross, “here you can use my cat’s comb…”)
With a little fix-up, the comb became suitable for a human to use.

The next day.
It is early in the morning as the sun has recently risen. For breakfast, they ate yesterday’s leftovers. Afterwards, Kurando, Akari, and Yukishiro when out to hunt on the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain.
Since then two days had passed. For Akari, this was a good change of pace, and it was also a chance for Kurando to work on the uncompleted request. But above all, the purpose was to cheer up Yukishiro.

「You seem to be in a good mood, Yukishiro-san.」(Akari)
「You can understand it?」(Kurando)
Although Akari found his comment vexing, she slightly chuckles.
「I do understand Yukishiro-san. During these past two days, it seemed down. Well, considering all that brushing you gave it yesterday…… I feel envious.」

(Akari)
「It seems to be the same as always.」(Kurando)
「I rather not be disliked by Yukishiro-san so I'll leave it at that. It does seem to be true that this Iruniiku (イルニーク) has a will of its own. If this were Japan you could easily harbor an animal in peace.」(Akari)
(T/N: exotic pets, perhaps)
「There was a time I kept some tadpoles, but aside for that, I never had any noteworthy pets. Anyways, this is a good time to spend with Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
After saying so, Kurando stretches his hand out to Akari.
「Oh, Yukishiro-san, what large hands do you have……」(Akari)
Once again Akari tripped over something.
——Grrh
Yukishiro is urging them to hurry up.
「Yes, yes, I'm coming.」(Kurando)
Kurando had also been stumbling. He and Akari hurried after Yukishiro.

Over there is the wild plant that Kurando had used as an ingredient in the curry he made.
It was a few days ago that Kurando had served Makushiimu (マクシーム) and Akari that curry stew.
「W-why didn't you…… inform me that you served us something expensive!」(Akari)
Akari's complexion turned blue.
「Umm, do you mind telling me the name of this plant Akari?」(Kurando)
The three of them had exited the cave and ascended up the slope. They had reached near the summit of the mountain. Around that area, there is a garden of blueish green plants. If one were to look around they could see bits of snow here and there.
Behind them is an extending mountain range with snow covered peaks. Beyond the forest, they can see the tiny spec that is Sarewado (サレハド) village.
Kurando gently brushes away the snow. Underneath the snow is a blueish green and semi-transparent plant. He collects the plant and refrigerates it right away.
「Although it may make a delicious meal when used as an ingredient in curry, a hand-full of these can be sold for 1,000 Rodo. The beak and the feathers of the

Sunibariooru (Azure Eagle) could've also been sold for as much.」(Akari)
「The『Toramora (トラモラ草) herb』has a sweet flavor that makes it a tasty treat. It's also quite nutritious. The herb is quite difficult to gather as it can be only be found on the top of the mountain. In the winter this mountain is impossible to climb. And, during the third month the middle area of the mountain becomes home to the Atorabashiku (アトラバシク, giant thorny spider). When the white phantom subjugation was being carried out those who thought the beast was a myth had joined with the intent to search for these herbs.」(Akari)
"*Pfff*", Kurando makes a childish sound.
Yukishiro snorts.
——*nibble*
「……」(Akari)
——*nibble, nibble, munch, munch*
In silence, Kurando clears away more snow from beneath his feet; he gathers more of the herb and refrigerated them.
——*nibble*
「……」(Akari)
「Yu-yukishiro-san, can you not nibbling on those plants.」(Akari)
——*nibble, nibble, munch, munch*
Yukishiro continues to graze on the Toramora herb.
Eventually, Yukishiro consumed about three hands fulls of the Toramora herb before Kurando had finished gathering some.
Afterwards, the event that Yukishiro had been anticipating was commencing.
If it had not, then Yukishiro would have eaten all of the Toramora herbs.

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「I never been to this area.」(Kurando)
They descend down the slope that is nearby the cave.
Dry leaves and shrubs are scattered about here and there. The atmospheric temperature around this area is different than from the cave.
——*Grrrh*
From Yukishiro's throat came a sound that indicates detection・warning.
Kurando quietly lowers his body. Yukishiro's tail is swaying right & left——
——*Shhh*
Akari was hit by Yukishiro's tail. Kurando hushes them as quietly as possible.

She tries to mimic Kurando by lowering her body as gracefully as she could.
Akari seems pleased.
The expression that she shows didn't seem to portray her as someone who is experienced in this sort of action.
Kurando didn't look towards Akari. He kept his line-of-sight on Yukishiro and followed it.

It is a person.
However, it has no mouth, no nose, no eyes, no eyebrows, and no ears.
Although, it has a wound. It is wearing leather armor, and it has a shield & a club. It seems to be a soldier.
The monster's body is clad in cold air. When it walks the shrugs and ground it walk near become frozen.

「A monster……」(Akari)
Akari's voice shivers as she mutters this.
In this world, the things that can be called an absolute evil are monster(s).
When a number of spirits decrease and the maryoku goes out of control the change causes a natural disaster to materialize.
It doesn't need to eat, and it doesn't propagate. It is a natural enemy to all living beings. There are no details about monsters.

This is Kurando first encounter with a monster.
Although he had learned about them from the textbook.

It only has one habit.
It is attracted to maryoku and will rush after it.

The target is an ice spirit variant; a soldier type monster.
That thing is not a person.
「……can you use your spirit magic?」(Kurando)
「……I may be an out-of-place hero, but I'm still a hero. There is no need to worry. However, it will take awhile.」(Akari)
「……okay, then I'll leave it to you. In the meantime, I will keep it distracted from a distance. Don't forget to aim.」(Kurando)
Akari nods while having a serious expression. She seems to be slightly trembling.
Kurando also felt fear.
It is a baseless and instinctive primordial fear.

Nevertheless, Kurando prepares himself for battle.
It doesn't appear to be withdrawing.

The monster dashed at Kurando with the speed of a beast.
He flinches.
From the corner of his eye, Kurando sees Yukishiro rushing past him. It stops the monster from advancing.

Kurando no longer has a choose in the matter; the monster needs to be stopped.
He pushes forward and doesn't falter; Kurando throws his boomerang at the restrained monster.

——ping

The boomerang cuts into the monster's face.
It leaves a deep cut; red blood streams out, but right away the wound freezes up.
The monster had bled similar to a person.

Kurando doesn't loosen his grip.
Because the textbook had mentioned that a normal amount of damaged wouldn't be enough to defeat a monster.
Near the foot of the monster, earth spirit magic is used to shoot an earth spike at it.
A spike skewers the monster's chest and stops the monster where it stood.
Yukishiro jumps on its back and bites off the monster's head.
Not long after earth spikes pierced the monster from all directions.
The monster's head falls to the ground rolling.

Kurando breathes out a sigh. He looks towards Akari.
Akari has prepared her bow. The bow is giving off a faint light.
「I-it isn't over.」(Akari)
Akari warns them.
Kurando turns around.
The earth spikes that are skewering the monster become frozen and then shatter to pieces. Without its head, the monster approaches them.
Kurando draws the kukuri katana from his waist.

He was able to do this before the club could be swung down.

In one strike Kurando's physical barrier is silently destroyed.
Before his barrier could be restored the monster leaps at Kurando with the club.
From the monster's flank, Yukishiro rushes in and bites onto the monster's arm that is holding a shield.
Yukishiro was only able to slightly stop the monster's movement. With its club, the monster aims for the lower region of Kurando's face.

If Kurando didn't have both of this arms blocking the path of the club, perhaps his neck would have been broken.
Both of Kurando's arms were ruthlessly broken.
An arrow is lodged into the monster's collar bone; it stops moving.

This time, the monster remained motionless.
「*Phew*」(Akari)
Kurando groans. Akari and Yukishiro rushed over to him.

He is losing consciousness.
Both of his arms are broken, and the club had knocked the sense out him.
Kurando hasn't come to his senses.
Akari and Yukishiro had confirmed the situation before they had rushed over to Kurando.
There in front of them is the monster's corpse.
In the distance, the monster's faceless head can be seen.

「……earth, coffin.」(Kurando)
Before fainting, Kurando had muttered one final earth spirit magic incantation.

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It was evening when Kurando regained consciousness.
Kurando had slept as if he had not slept for days.
He lifts his body off of the pelt carpet that he had recently bought.
「Ah, you should lay back down. You dislocated both of your arms and your jaw.」(Akari)
Kurando's body is quite feverish.
When Kurando tried to remove the blanket covering him, he felt a sharp pain run through his arms.

「*Urgh*」(Kurando)
Akari saw Kurando groan in pain; she removes the blanket for him.
「Was it too hot? I tried to give you medical treatment to the best of my knowledge.」(Akari)
Akari, who is sitting across from Kurando, appears apologetic. He noticed it.
「Is this the result of Makushiimu-san's life spirit magic training?」(Kurando)
Somewhere in the world, a certain macho-man got the feeling someone was talking about him.
「*Urgh*」(Kurando)
「It must be difficult to move your jaw. You had best refrain from talking for now. Fortunately, for you, everything is still intact.」(Akari)
Kurando groans.
「*Fufufu*, although it may not seem like it life spirit magic is my strong point. Because you weren't conscious then, I couldn't give you a complete medical treatment. So once more, please accept it, okay.」(Akari)
While Kurando was unconscious Akari confirmed that the body needs to acknowledge life spirit magic. If there is no consciousness and the vessel's lifeforce is repairing the body, life spirit magic's medical treatment and the effects of other abilities will not work.
In other words, for the treatment to work, Kurando's acknowledgement is required.
「*Gyaaaaaaaaa!*」(Kurando)
Kurando opens his mouth and groans out loud.
First, his joints will be popped back into place. Restoration magic will then be applied. Kurando must bare with the pain as his joints are affixed into place. At some point in time, an earth cast was molded onto his legs and arms.
Akari controls the earth cast and moves the bones in Kurando's arms back into place.
「*Gyaaaaaaaaa!*」(Kurando)
The medical treatment finished; both Kurando's arms and his jaw were reconnected.
Akari wipes away the sweat from her brow. She made a satisfied expression.
The treatment Akari gave Kurando was quite sadistic.
「Although the treatment was done all at once, you should be alright. This

evening it will get fairly hot so try to endure it, please.」(Akari)
As a result of using life spirit magic to hastily heal the body, it will cause a terrible fever.
「*Ha, ah, oh, what, happened. Ugh, a-afterwards?*」(Kurando)
Kurando wasn't aware of what happened with the monster.
Akari made an apologetic expression.
「Jani…… Kurando-san, before you passed out you dealt the finishing blow. I was surprised to see the mass of spikes. Everything is alright now. But……」(Akari)
Akari looks toward the area Kurando's feet is facing.
Kurando turns his head to face in that direction.

There laid a small round shield next to the downhearted Yukishiro.

– ToC –

Chapter 27: Injury

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２７ー怪我

Chapter 27 – Injury

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

It intended to protect him.

It was going to show him how it should be done.

Its eyes nor its nose were able to do anything. Its movements were too slow.

Its effort to protect Kurando had become useless.

As a result, Kurando was injured.

A large amount of blood had gushed out of Kurando’s mouth.

If it was only Kurando and itself, then perhaps Kurando would have died.

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Yukishiro rubs the tip of its nose against Kurando’s injured body.

Kurando was somehow able to move his arm to pet the usually modest Yukishiro.

Yukishiro fetches the small shield and brings it over to Kurando.

It placed the shield down horizontally from where Kurando laid.

「W-were you, protecting, this for me?」(Kurando)

——Gruuhh

Yukishiro was unable to stop the monster. It had never thought that it wouldn’t be able to protect Kurando.

When Yukishiro heard Kurando groan it nuzzled against his face. Yukishiro curls itself up and lays next to Kurando’s bedside.

Akari speaks up.

「The monster disappeared but the club and shield had remained. I have heard of

this before, but this is the first time I've seen it personal.」(Akari)
A short distances away there is a club lending against the wall.
「There is nothing wrong with the club and shield. You could use it if you wanted to, but I'm not sure about the equipment's quality.」(Akari)
「Thanks, for patching, me up.」(Kurando)
Akari seems startled.
「I'm not sure how to say this, but I wasn't useful.」(Akari)
「That isn't so. I was, unable, to use, spirit magic then.」(Kurando)
「Anyone could've done the same. I only did as I was instructed.」(Akari)
After listening to Akari talk, Kurando closed his eyelids. He needed to sleep.

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Kurando awoke to a raging heat.
His whole body was sweating like a waterfall.
There is darkness all around him.
Akari wasn't beside the fireplace.
Kurando is in the nude. He isn't wearing a shirt nor trousers. (T/N: first mention of nudity and it happens to be Kurando, lol)
Although his arms are stiff they don't ache.
This is the first time Kurando had sustained a serious injury and had received life spirit magic since coming to this world. He never thought about such things before.
The fever was the price to pay for being healed.
Yukishiro's ears move. It slightly opens its eyes.
Kurando makes his way to the bathroom.
Yukishiro approaches Kurando.
It had been sleeping. Yukishiro doesn't need light to see in the dark because it has night-vision.
While in the bathroom, Kurando tries to use water magic. He is unable to use magic.
In other words, his maryoku is depleted. His maryoku supply is almost dry, perhaps.
「How troublesome, it this another side effect? ……no water, huh?」(Kurando)
He saw Yukishiro who had followed him to the bathroom. Yukishiro quickly filled the bathtub with water. Usually, Kurando would be able to do so by himself

without having to request Yukishiro's assistance.
Kurando gives his thanks before submerging his body into the water in the bathtub.
The water overflows out of the bathtub.
"*AHHHHHHHH*", a sound leaks out of his throat.
The heat from his fever had passed and his body is cooling down.
With a "splash", Yukishiro joins Kurando in the bathtub.
「H-hey, now, careful.」(Kurando)
More water overflows out of the tub.
Kurando's face was splashed with water. When Yukishiro had submerged itself in the water it made the bath cold.
It wasn't too cold. Kurando had become used to the cold winters so something like a cold bath is no big deal. But nevertheless, like any normal living animal, Kurando prefers a hot bath. However, on Earth, there are no magical beasts so this time, Kurando consented to the situation.

For a while, Kurando soaked in the bathtub.
In the darkness, he sat there in the tub.
Although there is a little discomfort, the wound on his arms has vanished.
Kurando recalls the moment when the boomerang had pierced the humanoid monster and red-blooded oozed out.
And, then he recalls the moment when the monster was skewered by the earth spikes.

Nothing.

Perhaps he is overthinking, but Kurando didn't feel any remorse.
Kurando has killed magical beast(s) and a person shaped monster. Perhaps, the things he had done have been wrong.
However, he felt little guilt and little regret.
Kurando and Akari have killed to protect Yukishiro.
But, the feelings of guilt and regret aren't present.
Anyways it is a「done-deal」; Kurando had already made up his mind.

By no means does that justify the things he had done.
But, it is nice to think of it that way.
If killing is the only way to protect, then kill he will. (T/N: that is some f**k up

logic)
In Japan, this wouldn't have been permitted, but in this world, that sort of society isn't here to stop him.
Wait, it is not permitted in this world's society; however, Kurando isn't a part of this world's society. And, after all, Kurando has no intentions of affiliating himself with this world's society.

Kurando is hesitant to say that he wouldn't kill another person.
But of course, he doesn't want to kill.
When he goes hunting Kurando never once enjoyed killing his prey.
Perhaps, he will never take a liking to killing a living being.
After coming to this world, maybe killing is something that cannot be helped.
During that time at the hunter association, Zauru (ザウル) was ready to draw a sword.
If things had turned out differently, perhaps they might have fought one another to the death.

A part of Kurando had wanted that fight to happen. And today, a part of Kurando had longed for such an event.

With all his might Kurando pulls himself up.
「——Janitor-san where are you? You shouldn't move around while you are still recovering.」(Akari)
The hole that is the entrance to the bathroom opens.
While Kurando is standing up the fire spirits that are surrounding Akari happens to float near Kurando.
They encounter one another.
Once more, the world, time paused.

*——Kyaaa

(T/N: the real question is, why does he not find it strange to take a bath with a giant cat while being completely naked, who takes a bath alongside their pet while being naked, imagine a naked Kurando brushing Yukishiro, I wonder what else he did while he was alone with Yukishiro)
「Well, isn't it normal to bathe in the nude?」 (Kurando)
「*S-shut up*. Anyways, it is too early for you to move around. Although your wounds have been repaired, it will take at least 10 days before you will make a full recovery.」 (Akari)
Kurando turns his head away at an angle. He looks away from Akari.
「……umm, it is possible that I have already fully healed?」 (Kurando)
「……it's possibility, but it is a rare occurrence.」 (Akari)
「*Ahem*, well, when I was treating you with magic I had exhausted most of my maryoku.」 (Akari)
「You are still recovering; get out of the cold bath and go to sleep.」 (Akari)
「Really now……」 (Kurando)
「What, do you feel hungry?」 (Akari)
Regardless of the size of the wound, the side effects caused by life spirit magic are depletion of maryoku, a fever, and hunger. It can't be helped as a person needs to eat food to replenish their energy.
「……I couldn't open the rucksack, therefore, I was unable to retrieve any meat or spices.」 (Akari)
The sound of a small branch cracking in the fireplace as it fuels the fire can be heard. There is a earth pot boiling water in the fireplace.
「Uh, that rucksack, am I the only one that can open it. I didn't know.」 (Kurando)
Kurando receives the rucksack from Akari. He takes out salt, pepper, chili pepper, a lump of brown sugar, wheat flour, and a few loafs of bread. Kurando hands these items over to Akari.
Akari lifts the lid and puts salt and pepper into the earth pot before placing the lid back on.
「Ah, since I'll be going back to the village, I will leave the rucksack as it is. Otherwise, if I wasn't around, you would be in a pinch.」 (Kurando)
「W-what are you implying!」 (Akari)
Akari turns her head to face Kurando. Her attitude is quite fierce.
「So, where can I find a person that can descend down a mountain after they had

fractured their jaw and both of their arms the day before?」(Akari)
Behind Kurando is Yukishiro chewing on a piece of meat. It leaves its meat and goes to growl at Kurando.
Kurando reaches under Yukishiro's jaw and strokes that area with his hand. He says something to Akari.
「I'm still a hunter. I need to report the information about the monster as it would be inconvenient if that village at the foot of the mountain is annihilated.」(Kurando)
Akari hesitates to response.
That village ostracized her. A part of Akari doesn't want to cooperate with them.
In Eripusu (エリプス) it is necessary that everyone cooperates if there might be a monster attack. (T/N: Eripusu might be the name of the continent; no concert information has been provided yet; Author-san sure likes to leave things out until later)
Akari recalls something; she keeps her mouth shut.
She sees Kurando tickling Yukishiro's throat.
「If there is a request to join them in their search, will you be able to cooperate with them?」(Akari)
Yukishiro became preoccupied after its throat was being tickled.
It wasn't angry…….Yukishiro is concerned and anxious……
At that time, Yukishiro's expression changed.
No matter how many times Akari and Yukishiro objected, Kurando ended the conversation.
However,
「Have you memorized spirit magic? If you haven't learned to use spirit magic, are you confident enough to fight monster(s)?」(Akari)
While pouting Akari hands over a bowl of meat & herbs that was cooked by being boiled. She also hands him bread that had been soaked in porridge.
——*GrrahGrrah*
Yukishiro imitates Akari.
As is.
Kurando nods his head and accepts the dishes.

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As expected it was impossible to memorize spirit magic in one night.

It is said that spirit magic was brought forth by the ancient Sandora (サンドラ) priestess and『the moon goddess “Maruuna・Niyuumu (マルゥナ・ニュゥム)』. Magic was said to be a hidden art among the priestesses. The increase in monster attacks resulted in the deaths of many people.
In an instant, the grieving『moon goddess “Maruuna・Niyuumu” 』spread magic throughout the world.
Although the people believed in different gods that didn’t stop them from using spirit magic. Those who lived in fear became delighted.
It was simply referred to as,
A wish, and thus their belief in pure existence,
That small amount of belief birthed spirits.
What are spirits? How does magic work?
Those affiliated with a religion simply explain it as “the power of god”.
For those affiliated with a religion, it was blasphemy to say that god wasn’t the source of magic. However, spirit magic could be utilized without believing in the existence of a god. To be accurate spirits are naturally different for a god.
Although they have no problems using magic, the existence known as spirits are relatively unknown. Spirit magic has been in use for the last 500 years.

Akari informs Kurando about the history lectures she heard at the university. On the third day, he learned the differences between the two spirit magics. Meanwhile, Kurando hears about autonomous magic from Akari. She drills the alternate spirit magic know-hows into Kurando.

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On the third day, Kurando prepares to descend down the mountain in the morning.
「Ah, here.」(Kurando)
「What’s this?」(Akari)
Kurando hands over the magic textbook and some vegetable seeds to Akari.
「These things will be able to help you kill some time.」(Kurando)
He puts on his leather long boots. The boomerang and kukuri katana are strapped onto his back. He is carrying a little amount of food and luggage. The small round shield is fastened to his right arm.
The club was Akari’s share of the loot. As proof of subjugation, the round shield

should be good enough.
「Thank you very much. Please, don’t forget about the protector. Your arms nor your jaw will break if you have armor on.」(Akari)
If this were three days about Akari wouldn’t have said something so harsh.
「Okay, okay, no need to pout.」(Kurando)
Two days ago, his arm was burning hot but now it is completely healed.
Kurando departs from the mountain in perfect condition.
Yukishiro is standing at Kurando’s side.
It plans to escort Kurando out of the (Atorabashiku) giant thorny spider’s territory.
Since then, Yukishiro has become more caring.

It doesn’t say anything.
But, even now as the days pass by it still feels anger.
「I’m off.」(Kurando)

– ToC –

Chapter 28: Request ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２８－依頼①

Chapter 28 – Request ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Kurando arrives near the association.

Since it is mid-night he decided to make camp outside the village. Kurando plans to visit the hunter association early in the morning.

「What do you mean by the request is invalid?」(Kurando)

Today, it is the usual staff member; that person is as arrogant as always.

「Kurando-san, you weren't clarified about the request that you had previously accepted from the Dorugan (ドルガン) parliament. The unaccepted request did allow from a person of a lower rank to accept the request, but the date goes against the association's rule and thus it is invalid. If you compare the request date you will see that it is different from the one written by the association. Kurando-sama, check the date on your copy of the request.」(staff member)

The staff member casually say this with his know-it-all tone.

「Because, there was a miscommunication as a special exception for a newcomer's mishap there will be no penalty. The request failure will not be held against you. Mistakes happen, so don't worry――」(staff member)

In his own way the staff member is trying to return the favor from before.

「――Ah, whatever. Enough already.」(Kurando)

The staff member was shocked that Kurando had interrupted.

「Really? Then, will you be taking another Toramora (トラモラ草) herb request? I'll confirm your re――」(staff member)

「――no thanks. I just return and you're already teasing me. Ludicrous.」

(Kurando)
「*S-sorr*, is there anything else?」(staff member)
At last, Kurando sees the staff member stumble.
「May I verify the proof of hunt?」(staff member)
「The request was invalid and I won't sell; therefore, there is no need for me to show you.」(Kurando)
「R-really?」(staff member)
「Besides, there is something I need to inform you about.」(Kurando)
The staff member raised his eyebrows.
「Even if I refuse——」(staff member)
「——you're mistaken. Quit your nonsense. It involves notifying the country ……it is a discussion about monster(s).」(Kurando)
Right away, the staff member makes a serious expression.
「Do you mind telling me the details?」(staff member)
The staff member ask this of Kurando in a low voice. In a low voice, Kurando reports his encounter with an ice warrior type monster that happened a few days ago.
「……understood. I'll contact the branch chief, please wait a while.」(staff member)
The staff member hurries to the innermost room of the building.

「Hey, your that Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th star) that had accepted the Gabodorattsue (ガボドラッツェ, 4th star) rank request that was left unaccepted. Know your place, and go take a Toramora herb request.」(???)
From behind Kurando, the bald muscular daruma from before is being a bother.
That person found Kurando's face to be familiar, and then they remembered.
「Hey, aren't you that newcomer from the other day?」(muscular daruma)
The bustling oafish voices of the other two hooligan hunters from before can be heard alongside the muscular daruma. (T/N: that guy doesn't have a name, okay)
「Toramora herb yea? Hey, let me have a look. Ah, it's truth, yea.」(hooligan A)
「Reaally, show me.」(hooligan B)
Kurando shows a displeased expression.
「Keep it to yourselves, and leave me out of this.」(Kurando)
Having said so, the three that came to pick a fight laughed in Kurando's face.
It was a vulgar laugh.

「*Gahaha*, make fun of you, what an idiot. Well, excuse me your lordship.」(muscular daruma)
「Maybe if you pay us. How does 1000 Rodo sound? And, then afterward return back here with spices from the royal capital.」(hooligan A)
「I-impossible, this country bumpkin doesn't know what spices are now, would he? *Gahaha*.」(hooligan B)
So spices can be found at the royal capital; Kurando is happy to learn this information. He lost interest in associating with these vulgar people.
「Hey, are you listening!」(hooligan A)
The "hooligan hunter A" pushes Kurando's shoulder.
「Kurando-san, please make your way to the back room.」(staff member)
The voice belongs to the staff member. Kurando takes advantage of this opportunity and quickly tries to make his way to the back room.
「Wait up.」(hooligan B)
The "hooligan hunter B" grabs hold of Kurando's shoulder.
Kurando takes hold of the arm that had slowly gripped his shoulder.
「Ah, whatcha doing!」(muscular daruma)
The bald muscular daruma and the "hooligan hunter A" take a fighting stance.
「*A-ahhhhhhhhhh*, release me.」(hooligan B)
Although Kurando doesn't appear to be doing anything, "hooligan B" is shouting out loud.
「The staff member is calling for me; so, is it alright for me to leave?」(Kurando)
In this unusual situation, their comrade seems to be in pain. The two companion don't say anything. Nothing is said.
Kurando lets go of the arm. He walks to the back room.
He doesn't fear the hooligans in the less.

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「T-that bastard, he used some sort of claw on me.」(hooligan B)
「But, magic wasn't used.」(hooligan A)
「You're exaggerating, let me see you arm.」(muscular daruma)
The bald muscular daruma takes hold of the rude hooligan's arm.
「……hey, were you bitten by a wolf?」(muscular daruma)
On the arm, the skin is broken and there are five finger marks.

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Kurando's fingers had undergone special training. After testing it out on a person, he is satisfied with the results.
He had learned the fundamentals of fighting from Yukishiro-sensei, and from a martial arts book in Japan.
Combat techniques cannot be practiced without a sparring partner. Although striking and self-defense techniques can be practiced alone using one's imagination, it is better if there is a sparring partner to practice with. Kurando did found sports technique to be unpolished.
Kurando trained himself in the old style martial arts. He focused on one-hit-kill. It can't be helped if his form is incorrect as he had no master to instruct him.
His concept was based on his reflexes, his physical strength, and his experience around grappling with Yukishiro. (T/N: crouching tiger, hidden Yukishiro, cough)
The technique that he used was based on that one time when Yukishiro had stopped his low kick by biting onto his leg. In a way, Kurando learned from his mistake.

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The arrogant staff member knocks on the door.
Kurando and the staff member finds themselves before a big desk.
There is an elderly man outfitted with well-tailored clothes sitting at the desk; the person has their arms crossed.
「Hmm, it seems you've been involved in all sorts of trouble. And now, a monster has appeared. While you were recommended by the officer『white spear』, don't make light of being expelled.」(chief)
Without an introducing, the branch chief looks Kurando over.
「I rather that you do not look down on me.」(Kurando)
The person is looking at Kurando with an unpleasant gaze.
From the gaze that the person gave him, Kurando got the impression that this association isn't as honest as he thought. It became something he didn't want to concern himself with.
「Well, I'm the chief of this branch, Yakofu・Serugerii・Maizeeru (ヤコフ・セルゲリー・マイゼールだ)」(Yakofu)
「Greeting, I'm Kurando.」(Kurando)

「I’m aware that you have various complaints.」(Yakofu)
And so begins Kurando’s tedious report and pointless chatter.
In short.
He talks about how the associations rules are restrictive.
He talks about how hunter rank is inaccurate.
He talks about the troubles that happened during his registration and the incident with Zauru (ザウル).
He talked about the threats he received upon taking the unaccepted request.
He talked about the lack of guidance that he received upon taking the request.
Kurando refers to the last request he took to be false advertising. Although the branch chief might not believe the words of a newcomer who only is known as someone that was recommended by Makushiimu (マクシーム).
To an outside party, Kurando is merely someone who was picked up by a famous person. Normally he would be labeled as a refugee, but Kurando doesn’t seem to be seen as such.
To the branch chief, who has influence in his home turf and connects with the parliament, Kurando’s words seem to be suspicious.

「Hmm, okay, I’ve more or less heard your report.」(Yakofu)
Kurando had explained his circumstances. When he thought about it his past experiences seem far away.
「Hmm, you’re telling me, a Ruterera (10th) single-handedly defeated an ice spirit warrior. And, that shield is the proof?」(Yakofu)
Kurando cannot afford to mention either Yukishiro or Akari, and he didn’t feel guilty about it.
There will be consequences if word got out about Yukishiro and Akari. From his standpoint, they can’t be mentioned.
The branch chief stares at the small shield with an exhausted expression.
「Your story sounds suspicious. If you are going to lie, at least make it believable. How about this; if you leave now I’ll raise your rank, and give you temporary preferential treatment.」(Yakofu)
Kurando couldn’t deceive the chief, but the results are still in his favor.
「Now, be on your way. Good luck on raising your rank…… oh, you don’t have a leader assign to you yet. Well, that is the fault of the people who had abused the honor of the hero. As of late, the number of hunters has diminished. If there is

no leader will you still accept requests?」(Yakofu)
Kurando doesn't want to concern himself with hunters as he thought this he makes his way out of the room.
——*clunk, clunk*
「What are you waiting for, be on you way.」(Yakofu)

The door opens with a *clank*.
A giant woman passes through the doorway.
「4th star, Gabodorattsue, Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン), present.」(Iraida)
Brown skin. A sexy muscular physique. Frizzy red hair that resembles a lion's mane. Large breast and ripped abs. A solid and plump lower body. She is wearing a revealing black leather outfit that exposes her cleavage and buttocks.
She doesn't appear old as her Greek like features make her age indistinguishable. In other words, a female version of Makushiimu.
「Hey, I'm begging you, the number of hunters will decrease.」(Iraida)
Iraida smiles. The branch chief raises his hand, and Kurando is driven out of the room.
「Ah, branch chief.」(Iraida)
「W-what is it?」(Yakofu)
「That newcomer, I will look after him.」(Iraida)
She is claiming the leadership role for Kurando.
「Aren't you close to becoming a Serurobi (セルロビ, 3rd star), you don't have time to be fooling around. A hunter such as yourself with ability on par with a hero, your time is a valuable thing to waste.」(Yakofu)
「You'll entrust the newcomer to me right. Yep, yep, it is decided then.」(Iraida)
She claps her hands together, and then leaves the room at her own convenience.
「Hey, let's go.」(Iraida)
After saying so, she follows after Kurando.
The branch chief has an annoyed expression.
"Serves him right", Kurando thought.
Kurando leaves the chief's room feeling refreshed.

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Iraida takes a sit at the bar's counter near the building entrance. She introduces herself.

「I am Iraida・Baagin, a Gabodorattsue (4th star). As you can see, I'm from the giant race. It is alright for you to simply call me "Iraida".」(Iraida)
「I'm Kurando, a temporary Ruterera (10th star). Call me whatever you want.」(Kurando)
The bartender passes Iraida a wooden cup of alcohol; she gulps it down.
Because of Iraida's stature, the cup looks unusually small.
She demands more alcohol; the bartender pours more into her cup.
The cup is quietly passed to Kurando.
Kurando appears distressed.
He touches the wooden cup. As he thought, it is a normal size cup.
Kurando glimpsed at Iraida, and then he also gulps it down.
He can feel the alcohol stinging his throat.
The alcohol is slightly similar to vodka.
「Please, don't ever forcibly pass me alcohol again. I don't drink alcohol.」(Kurando)
Iraida smiles. Her smile is as ferocious as a wild animal.
「What does it matter, it's good alcohol?」(Iraida)
Kurando doesn't understand the charm of the taste of alcohol.
The meaning behind Iraida's smiles intensifies.
「Well, as long as it is in moderation.」(Kurando)
As long as it isn't strong alcohol.
It doesn't matter if it is strong or weak.
It's the same no matter if it is cheap or expensive alcohol.

Is it suppose to taste good or bad?

– ToC –

Chapter 29: Request ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

２９ー依頼②

Chapter 29 – Request ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

A cup of strong alcohol.

It is a customary practice among hunters for the leader to offer a cup to the newcomer they are in charge of.

This custom is out of style; nowadays, not many of the traditions are continued.

At best the leader will merely give the newcomer a knife.

Kurando watches Iraida (イライダ) intently as she gulps down a cup of Vuogira (ヴォギラ, alcohol).

The farmers around these parts like to drink strong alcohol.

Kurando had certainly seen the dwarf and his companions effortlessly drink the alcohol. The giant race seems to be heavy drinkers. The amount of alcohol that the other races (elves, beastmen, and humans) can handle seems to vary.

Although tolerance may vary, before they can drink the alcohol in a different manner they must first gulp it down. As a newcomer, it is a show of restraint to their fellow senior hunter.

Kurando drunk it because he didn’t want to be seen as a downer.

At any rate, without a leader’s guidance, he would not have a connection to the village.

To begin with, Kurando’s physical features are different from the villagers.

Although he is a misplaced foreigner, Kurando doesn’t appear downhearted.

From the start, one should consider Kurando’s age.

His accurate age is difficult to read. The fine details aren't known, but he looks to be in his twenties.
An Aromeri blade (アロメリ, 三剣角鹿の角); he has an unknown small shield equipped, but he is not wearing enough other protective armor. Kurando isn't from the giant race; so, why is he dressed like a hunter from the wrong era?
She had overheard that the small shield was obtained from an ice warrior type monster.
If that were true the matter should be investigated; however, the branch chief had judged that the newcomer's story wasn't credible enough.
It is a leader's role to guide and to watch over troublesome newcomer hunters. For that reason, it is their duty to groom newcomers.
Although, Kurando doesn't seem to be the type to be lead around by others.

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「Uh, do you want to take a request today?」(Iraida)
It is still early in the day.
「Today is impossible. How about tomorrow? The alcohol has upset my stomach.」(Kurando)
Kurando's complexion looks somewhat bad.
「Why? You're quite pathetic…… your race should be able to handle at least that much alcohol.」(Iraida)
She takes another gulp before giving a hearty laugh.
「Is there anything you want to know about before we get to work? There are some things that can't be verbally explained, but I'll walk you through it. Did you want to know about non-rank requests and other, private request, similar things such as no-time-limit request (unaccepted request)?」(Iraida)
It seems that rules can differ between the association and countries.
「Is it true that no-time-limit request can only be accepted by hunters of equal rank or two less than the posted rank?」(Kurando)
「That's right, although it isn't a very good rule now is it.」(Iraida)
「The request that I had taken on a few days ago clearly said it was acceptable, but the request was still invalid.」(Kurando)
「Although it was okay by the associates rules, sometimes a country's rules may state otherwise. I don't often hear of requests being invalid, though.」(Iraida)
Iraida crossed her arms together; she shows a thoughtful expression.

This action caused the gap in between her breast to deepen. (T/N: boobies)
「Well, it's already over. There is no helping the matter now. So, what's next?」 (Kurando)
Iraida looks over Kurando, from his head to his toes.
「Is that all you have on?」 (Iraida)
「Uh, yea.」 (Kurando)
「Do you plan to do hunter related work dressed like that? Is it because you don't have money?」 (Iraida)
「About that, I came to this village to earn money.」 (Kurando)
「Did you bring anything else?」 (Iraida)
「*Ahaha,* this——」 (Kurando)
Kurando sets down the luggage from his back.

The association's swing door opens with a bang.
And, with the same force, it swings shut.
It sprang back like a springboard.

The association's lobby became silent.

This time, the door slowly opens.
Something is standing there.
「Eh, Orc?」 (Kurando)
Although it isn't certain, it does look like an Orc.
Nope, it's more like a pig beastman.
A person from one of the beastman race.
An Orc, person, who has on fine cloth.
「I want to get in contact with the person who had accepted the Toramora herb gathering request.」 (???)
That person has a pleasant voice; a Baritonboisu (バリトンボイス) like voice.
「Why if it isn't Baron Potapenko (ポタペンコ男爵). What can I do for you today——」 (staff member)
It is the arrogant staff member; he is shamelessly rubbing hands together.
Baron is the person's honorary title. In this country, the aristocrat system had been abolished a long time ago, but the heads of aristocratic families were allowed to kept their title.
「I'm sorry to inform you, but the acceptance of the request was a newcomers

mistake. (staff member)
The staff member shamelessly bows his head.
The person called Baron Potapenko has a troubled expression on his face.

From somewhere in the surrounding,
「Hey there, pig Baron」(voice A)
「Is his hobby playing dress-up as a noble?」(voice B)
「I heard he ate his fortune away.」(voice C)
「Nowadays, I hear Toramora herb is quite a first-class spice.」(voice D)
The voices heard are fairly faint.
Although the aristocrat system has been long abolished, even now, no one would insult an aristocrat to their face.

「*Hmm*, but, I can smell the scent of Toramora herb?」(Potapenko)
The nose of Baron Potapenko is twitching.
Although no one said it out loud everyone in the lobby is thought, “are you a pig or something”.
Baron Potapenko ignores the staff member; the Baron’s nose twitches even more.
And then, the Baron turns to Kurando’s direction. The Baron walks in large strides and approaches Kurando.
Despite Iraida drawing the lustful gazes of people, when she exited the branch chief’s room, the Baron doesn’t take notice of the neighboring beautiful woman, Iraida. Not once did he glance over at her.
「Good sir, do you have Toramora herb? You do, do you not. I do not know the association’s circumstances, but do you mind handing it over to me?」(Potapenko)
Contrary to his appearance the person is quite humble.
Close, the Baron has bent over very closely to Kurando. The Baron approaches the bar counter with an overpowering demeanor.
「W-wait, are you the client of the no-time-limit (unaccepted) request?」(Kurando)
「That is correct. I have been waiting for half a year now.」(Potapenko)
Kurando looks toward Iraida.
「……what should I do in this case?」(Kurando)
「Well, there is no problem with making it a private transaction; however, do you

have Toramora herbs with you.」(Iraida)
The Baron looks at Kurando with a pleading expression that seems to be urging Kurando to hurry and hand it over.
Twinkling eyes, a plump face, a bulky but graceful body despite being a pig. The Baron has a charm that is difficult to dislike.
「O-okay, calm down.」(Kurando)
After Kurando tells him so, Baron Potapenko's nose relaxes. However; he remains excited similar to a sitting dog would.
Kurando takes 3 lumps of Toramora herbs from his rucksack.
「Here——」(Kurando)
Chomp
Similar to how a certain someone would sink their teeth into food, the Baron puts one lump of the Toramora herb into his mouth.
「Hey.」(Kurando)
Munch, munch, crunch
Like a philosopher at the top of their field, Baron Potapenko ate the herb with an earnest expression as he savors the flavor.
He chews it many times over.
And then, the Baron sallows while showing feelings of regret——
The Baron sheds a tear.

「This is it, I can recall the flavor from my distant childhood; I had received a single slice from grandfather. Oh, this is that flavor. Surely, this is Toramora herb!」(Potapenko)

Although this is the self-indulgence of an aristocrat, everyone in the lobby hangs on Baron Potapenko's every word.
「Thank you, thank you.」(Potapenko)
「*Ah-haha*, what about the reward for the request?」(Kurando)
The Baron, who had approached ever so closer to Kurando, while giving his thanks he suddenly stops.
Baron Potapenko's face turns blue.
「W-well you see, last month's food payment, how to put this, short on funds.」(Potapenko)
Baron Potapenko's body begins to shrink after being exposed to Kurando's eyes.
「……s-so, another form of payment will have to do. Do you have any

suggestions?」(Kurando)
In other words, a shake down.
Kurando has no other options. Iraida tries to hold down her laughter.
「Will anything do, you see money is impossible. But even so, I'm an aristocratic…… ya an aristocratic?」(Potapenko)
「Oh. Baron Potapenko, are you not the head of your family?」(Kurando)
Kurando's gamble. Baron Potapenko is an aristocratic, but he has no power only an honorific title. At best, he can offer favor with his political authority (from the parliament), or trade off a magic secret.
In reality, the Baron has trouble paying for food; he is an aristocratic living in poverty.
Kurando whispers something into the Baron's ear.
Baron Potapenko made a surprised expression.
Because Kurando had filled the request and brought back the Toramora herb, at first he thought Kurando was angry. The Baron thought there was no possible way to settle the debt.
「*That's all, however, it's not like, oh I see.*」(Potapenko)
Baron Potapenko is looking downwards and is mutters something to himself.
After a while, he looks up towards Kurando.
「……it won't be of much use to a hunter; are you sure?」(Potapenko)
「Anything will be fine. I just happen to be a curious person.」(Kurando)
「Hmm, I may be from a poor Baron family, but it is still an heirloom…」(Potapenko)
The remaining Toramora herbs are placed on top of the bar counter.
「Not even if it is for this much?」(Kurando)
「*Ahhh*, but, but. *Argh*, alright but ——in the future, if you have anything yummy, please bring it to me. You're a resident hunter here right, you'll bring it to me right?」(Baron)
「……that sounds good to me.」(Kurando)
「——okay, okay it's a deal. Now then.」(Baron)
While appearing restless, Baron Potapenko goes over to the association's counter. A while later, he returns and then whispers something into Kurando's ear.
Kurando grasps a piece of paper in his hand.

「Here is my family's heirloom. Okay now, I should return home before it gets dark.」(Potapenko)
Kurando gives his consents by nodding. The remaining Toramora herbs are handed over to the Baron.
「*Hmm*, if I recall, my family will be staying in Tanksaku for the time being. Feel free to visit me when you have time.」(Potapenko)
Tansaku (タンスク) is where the Dorugan parliament is located. It is Dorugan's capital city.
The Baron puts the Toramora herbs he received into his personal cloth bag.
Baron Potapenko left after giving an elegant aristocrat like gesture; the Baron acted completely different compared to his behavior upon his arrive.
Although, when seen from behind, the Baron is still an Orc.

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Baron Potapenko suddenly appeared like a hurricane, after his departure, there was a strange calmness.
By chance, Kurando saw the arrogant staff member in the lobby. The staff member has a sour expression.
Kurando had a thought and mockingly laughed in the face of the arrogant staff member.
The staff member turned around and when back to the reception desk.
However, Kurando could see the person's irritation from the manner in which they were walking.
The staff member being the over-calculating raccoon that his is had expected Kurando to sell the Toramora herbs to the hunter association.

Iraida who knows of the arrogant staff member's true nature tries to suppress her laughter as she begins a conversation with Kurando.
「Who would have guessed, you really did have Toramora herbs with you. So, what did you plunder? But, you certainly did lead that blue blood by the nose.」(Iraida)
Kurando suddenly smiles, he whispers something into Iraida's ear.

"*The Baron Potapenko's family one and only autonomous magic secret.*"
Kurando whispers this in the quiet voice.

Iraida made a blank expression before she began giggling.

「*Kukuku*, good for you, I guess?」 (Iraida)
With a pleasant expression on his face, Kurando nods.
Were there any demerits? Was what he gain worthwhile? Kurando had no regrets about the transaction.
He fully well understood the meaning behind Iraida's words.

It is possible that the autonomous magic Baron Potapenko gave Kurando could be fake. Kurando has yet checked its authenticity.
But, he has faith.
Kurando has no reason to trust Baron Potapenko.
It is not like handing over the Toramora herbs caused Kurando a direct loss.
Gathering the herbs caused him no trouble.

The transaction between Kurando and Baron Potapenko was a mutual/ verbal agreement.
Kurando took a risky gamble; he traded Toramora herbs for Baron Potapenko family's autonomous magic secret. But, it's not like Kurando loss anything in the exchange.
For Kurando, obtaining Toramora herbs is like buying bread downtown. It is incomparable to obtaining an original autonomous magic formula. The worst thing that could happen is that the formula turns out to be counterfeit, but Kurando isn't concerned about that.
This was a rare chance for a regular person to obtain an original magic from an aristocratic, magic that would normally be concealed from the public. It was worth the risk.

Why would Baron Potapenko make a promise to an unknown hunter such as Kurando? Kurando doesn't know the answer.
Maybe he is crazy, but the Baron didn't seem to be the type of person who would give someone a counterfeit and then laugh behind the other person's back.
It is a possibility that Kurando and the Baron will never meet one another again.
However, Kurando doesn't see it that way.
To Kurando, the worst thing that could happen from that transaction is being cheated.
Beside, Kurando didn't want to sell the Toramora herbs to the hunter

association. Sure enough, Kurando is pleased with having completed the transaction with Baron Potapenko.

「Well, for here onwards what do you plan to do about protective armor?」(Iraida)
Iraida returns to the conversation from before.
Leaving the matter of whether or not the magic formula Kurando acquired is real aside, they move onto the next topic.
Whatever the magic is, Kurando plans to accept it.

Kurando then searches through his luggage.

– ToC –

Chapter 30: Request ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３０ー依頼③

Chapter 30 – Request ③

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Upon seeing the hide Iraida's expression changed.

Kurando is holding the hide in his hand after having retrieved it from his luggage.

「Where did you obtain that hide?」(Iraida)

While she is grasping her hands together, Iraida (イライダ) earnestly ask this of Kurando.

「The origin is unknown.」(Kurando)

Kurando doesn't look away from her and said this without shame.

Iraida lets out a single sigh. She stops holding her hands together.

「I won't say you stole it, but it isn't a good idea for a Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th star) to have that in their possession as that sort of thing is unwelcome around here. At worst they will claim that it is stolen goods.」(Iraida)

What Kurando had taken out of his leather bag was something the parent magical beast had left behind, a Barobashishiri (巻角大蜥蜴, バロバシシリ, massive horned monitor lizard).

Following the incident where Kurando had sustained a grave injury, Akari suggested he get more protective armor. The hide was then bestowed onto Kurando after Yukishiro gave its blessing to use it.

This was possible because of the relationship Kurando has with Yukishiro. That is how he got his hands on the hide.

Of course, Kurando was unable to skin it himself. The Barobashishiri (massive

horned monitor lizard) had to be defrosted, and then Akari was the one who skinned it. The various methods to skin it was fairly grotesque. It will take Kurando some time before he can get used to skinning things.
Afterward upon Yukishiro's suggestion, they had a barbecue party.
The Barobashishiri's meat had a lamb like texture but a light chicken-like flavor.

「You see, they don't inhabit this area. It really stands out.」(Iraida)
「Is that how it is?」(Kurando)
「They are found living in the desert due west of the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountains.」(Iraida)
「Eh, there's a desert?」(Kurando)
Once again, Kurando's "romance (fantasy)" starts up.
Sand storms, oasis, camels, nomads, female dancers……
「In present day Eripusu (エリプス), the deserts are cold. Personally, I haven't seen them. Perhaps next time we could go——」(Iraida)
His romance (fantasy) can be heard shattering.
「You don't have to look so upset…… anyways, it is best to leave that hide aside for now.」(Iraida)
「Should I put it into cold storage?」(Kurando)
「Ah, that is no good. After the hide has been skinned, refrigerating the hide now will cause the quality to drop. How about this, I will arrange a leather armor shop in one of the big cities to look after it for you.」(Iraida)
It's no good to ruin the hide.
Now, the only problem is whether or not Kurando can trust Iraida.
They have yet to work together on a request. He is unsure of Iraida's effectiveness as a leader/ mentor.
「Since we aren't taking up a request until tomorrow, may I accompany you afterward?」(Kurando)
Iraida makes a profound smile.
「*Fufu*, if you're alright with it, then I don't mind. Anyways, there are many requests available in Tansuku (タンスク). Well, how about we go buy you some armor?」(Iraida)
After they reached an agreement, they both got up.
Kurando trips over his own legs and falls over.

Umm.

His face is firmly implanted in between Iraida's breast.

「Ah, my bad, I'm feeling tipsy.」(Kurando)
Kurando separates his body from Iraida's.
Iraida is disappointed by Kurando's casual reaction.
Despite Kurando having seen her breast and buttock, she thought his reaction to being a letdown.
She found Kurando was no fun to tease.
「You're quite a lightweight (drinker).」(Iraida)
「It's not so much that I'm weak to alcohol, it is that I'm not used to it.」(Kurando)
「Come on, come on, let's go.」(Iraida)
Kurando and Iraida exited the association building.
Afterward, they purchased ordinary leather armor and then they returned to the inn.
Iraida is staying at the same inn. In this village, there seems to be only one inn.
It seems that during the white phantom subjugation request they had rented out one of the houses to stay at.

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In the morning, they took the single straight road to the association. Kurando and Iraida enter the lobby.
Kurando is wearing an ordinary light brown leather armor; it makes him look like a proper hunter.
Iraida has her frizzy, lion mane looking, hair tied back with one band. She is wearing a corset like leather armor, and leather pants. On her back is a long bow & quiver, and a two prong spear. At her waist is a big ax.
Her breast is creating a vast ravine. The skin of her shoulders and arms are exposed. (T/N: jeez over descriptions any, Author-san must really like her)

The lobby is crowded with people who want to take up a request early in the morning.
Kurando sees Zauru (ザウル) exit from the innermost room of the building.
Iraida traces Kurando's line of sight, but she speaks up about another matter.
「Huh…… is that one of the central government's investigators? Hmm, is something the matter?」(Iraida)

From behind Zauru appears a man outfitted in black with a (dual horse head & a spear, one horse head is red the other horse head is white) embroidery on his chest. (T/N: not sure what this sentence is trying to say. the man is black could be holding a spear with a horse decoration on the hilt. when in doubt guess)
「What's the deal with that person?」(Kurando)
「Ah, umm, during the white phantom subjugation request the hero tried to take all the credit. They lead the local hunters into a trap. The hero then used an Atorabashiku (アトラバシク, giant thorny spider) to assault those hunters. Currently, the hero's whereabouts and status are unknown. Why is it that you don't know? It occurred not too long ago.」(Iraida)
What a lovely story. It was a lot more detailed than the one Kurando heard from Makushiimu (マクシーム).
「I live on the mountain, so I'm unfamiliar with the rumors going around.」(Kurando)
「……on the mountain, you do?」(Iraida)
「Do you know what is going on? The investigator really stands out this time around.」(Kurando)
「Recently, the central government has been investigating the area. You see the Dorugan (ドルガン) parliament is quite slow to take action, or at least that is how they are trying to appear…… there are some bad rumors going around, but perhaps it's nothing.」(Iraida)
「Bad rumors?」(Kurando)
「Information one wouldn't be able to normally find. You see for hunters gathering such information is necessary. Well, rumor has it the Dorugan parliament used the hero. Well, they happened to become the food that fuels the lot of them.」(Iraida)
「I see.」(Kurando)
As planned, the two head over to look at the bulletin board.

「——nothing」(Kurando)
「Praiseworthy. A Ruterera (10th star) has no choice but to take up a Torabokku (トラボック) hunting request, isn't that right?」(staff member)
The two head over to the open reception desk.
And there is the arrogant staff member. This staff member seems to be always open. Kurando suspects the other hunters try to avoid this person.

「About that, I heard from Iraida yesterday that because this place is in a remote location there are few other requests for Ruterera(s) to accept aside from Torabokku (magic grass) hunt requests.」(Kurando)
In the frontier region of Sarehadokurasu (サレハドクラス) and other known frontier regions; when there are no outside requests for newcomers to take the association is supposed to make requests from them to take up.
The staff member questions the expressionless Iraida.
「In those places, what do they do with newcomers?」(staff member)
「My acquaintances and relatives would party up with other hunters to help raise their rank.」(Iraida)
「In other words, Kurando hasn't been receiving other requests because he is alone?」(staff member)
「That sounds about right. If there are no parties around here for you to join, it is best to search elsewhere. Although this place is certainly a remote region, there is no lacking of skilled people. Not cooperating with other hunters can be more of a hindrance than helpful.」(Iraida)
A healthy dose of callous and arrogance is a good thing every now and then.
On to another matter unrelated with Kurando; somewhere else on the mountain far away as if something had been transmitted to it, Yukishiro's tail does a boisterous dance.
After having merely thought about it, Iraida causally this.
「Understood. I will party up with Kurando.」(Iraida)
「Iraida-san, you will?」(Kurando)
「I'm I unsuitable? Well, until you raise your rank that is.」(Iraida)
「R-really」(staff member)
「Is it a violation of the association's rule?」(Kurando)
「……no, there shouldn't be——」(staff member)

「——Ah,『the bee stinger (蜂撃)』Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン); may I have a bit of your time?」(Zauru)
Zauru interrupts the staff member.
Without waiting for a reply from Iraida, he begins to introduce himself.
「I'm Zauru・Domitorii・Buragoi (ザウル・ドミトリー・ブラゴイ), a Gabodorattsue (4th star). I lead this area's top party,『the Giga Wolves (ギガーヴォ)』.」(Zauru)
Iraida frowns.

「I'm not a fan of the name. Do you need something?」(Iraida)
Upon hearing her words, Zauru's face twitched.
「I have a request. For a chance to become a Serurobi (セルロビ, 3rd star), would you like to team up with me and hunt an Atorabashiku (アトラバシク, giant thorny spider)?」(Zauru)
「If I'm not mistaken, there is no such request to become a Serurobi (3rd star)?」(Iraida)
「It is a no-time-limit request; you only have to request it as the association here is quite flexible.」(Zauru)
Zauru gives fleeting glances and grins at Kurando. (T/N: NTR, cough)
Kurando surmised that this no-time-limit request might have something to do with Zauru's personal connections. Most likely, Zauru had asked one of his parents to pressure the Dorugan parliament to commission the request.
Iraida says she is not interested.
「Ask someone else; I'm currently advising someone.」(Iraida)
「Hey, hey, mentoring that refugee will be a waste of time.」(Zauru)
「That refugee only recently showed up at this association, don't you have other hunter related work to do? Won't mentoring this person get in the way of your work as a hunter?」(Zauru)
「Who exactly is that person, his origins are unknown. What does he do for a living?」(Zauru)
Zauru line-of-sight goes toward the other hunters.
The hunters behind Zauru look away; they won't denial Zauru's opinion.
If they are going to hunt a high-rank magical beast or monster, they would gladly welcome the high rank hunter Iraida. But, when there is an argument between high rank hunters that will threaten their own livelihood, they will not interfere.
Naturally, hunters will give their support to their hometown hunter(s).
「Is that so, but I'm also an outside so there isn't a problem.」(Iraida)
「You're an exception. You're close to becoming a Mitsuboshi (セルロビ, 3rd star) and you're the renown,『Bee stinger』of Sarewado (サレハド).」
Iraida・Baagin served as a mentor for many hunters at the towns and villages she had stopped by. She would drink with the locals and occasionally help them on hunts.
It is said that, while acting as a vanguard she downed a man-eating bird with a

thrust of her spear. When she is in charge there is said to be no discord in her chain of command.
She earned the moniker,『Bee stinger (蜂撃)』after she had successfully hunted a murder wasp with one strike.
Zauru wants to recruit the renown,『Bee stinger』.
「It is a leader's role to mentor; it's an unforgivable act to my ancestors if I do not. Try asking someone else.」(Iraida)
Those from the Giant race are well known to worship their ancestors.
Zauru does not raise an objection to Iraida.
「*Tsk*,『Queenbee (女王蜂)』and the refugee have it your way…… out of the way.」(Zauru)
Zauru pushes aside the other hunters and moves to the association's 2nd floor.
With a confused expression, his companions (other hunters) followed after him.
『Queenbee (女王蜂)』, is what the jealous hunters who have been left out would call Iraida behind her back.
As if nothing had happen the staff member turns to Iraida.
「Well, I'll process your request over here.」(staff member)

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He didn't like it.
On the 2nd floor, Zauru forcefully sits down on the sofa in the branch chief's room.
Zauru thought that man (Kurando) to be someone trivial. What Zauru disliked was that Kurando was recommended by Makushiimu (マクシーム).
Zauru is displeased with Makushiimu because Makushiimu stood up for the hero.
He found it displeasing that a so-called virtuous person is trying to uncover the truth. But what Zauru hated, even more, was that the person in question was someone from Roorana (ローラナ).
Kurando has already been reported as being a suspicious person to the investigator from the central government. It is understood that Kurando is someone who was recommended by Makushiimu. That matter is settled.
Well, the central government's brief investigation involving the hero scandal is already over and done with.
For Zauru, the circumstances were quite favorable. They really are a bunch of idiots.

The current problem is that man (Kurando).
Although he (Kurando) is insignificant that person is an irritating eyesore.
The low-born filth didn’t obediently hand over his hunt (Azure Eagle), he took up a Gabodorattsue (4th star) rank no-time-limit request, and he had gained the favor of Iraida.
An annoying piece of shit that person (Kurando) is .
Zauru clicks his tongue many times over.

「You seem to be in a bad mood, Zauru-sama. Hmm, what will be your request this time?」(Yakofu)
The quiet Zauru sees the branch chief’s broad smile.

– ToC –

Chapter 31: Request ④

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３１ー依頼④

Chapter 31 – Request ④

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Iraida (イライダ) submitted her request to party up with Kurando. For the meantime, they are waiting by the reception desk. The branch chief appears from the back room and moves over to the reception desk; he has his arms placed behind his back.

「As Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン) will soon become a Serurobi (セルロビ), it is problematic for her to act as a leader (mentor); therefore, the party request will not be permitted.」(Yakofu)

Iraida suddenly but subtly raises her eyebrows.

「The association shouldn't have such authority; how is this possible?」(Iraida)

「Ah, please don't misunderstand. There has been a request prepared for that newcomer. For that reason, the party can't be formed?」(Yakofu)

「Why did the association prepared a request?」(Iraida)

「We aren't giving him special treatment or anything. It's the rule, and the rule must be upheld. What had been arranged is a shiodzuke (塩漬) request given to Konbajira (コンバジラ, 8th star) and Shiburoshika (シブロシカ, 9th star). At some point we thought the newcomer would become dependable; so, this request was being considered even before his registration.」(Yakofu)

Iraida makes a magnificent frown.

To break things down, Kurando has been screwed not once, not twice, but three times by the association. Ever since his initial registration, it isn't difficult to see

that there are some ulterior motives going on.
It isn't normal for an association branch to quarrel with their local hunters over the honesty of a request as this can cause the credibility of that branch to fall. In the first place, the association wouldn't have experienced any lost even if there are shiodzuke requests that are left uncompleted. (T/N: a shiodzuke request is a leftover request no one completed or took up)

「I don't believe it is an obligatory request. For starters, tell me more about the request.」(Iraida)
A bomb had been dropped as they had been informed of something unexpected.
Kurando and Iraida eagerly wait for the branch chief's explanation.
In a case of a magical beast stampede or a monster attack, a hunter can be asked to cooperate with the association. During such a time of crisis, the hunter association has the authority to forceful call upon a hunter they are affiliated with. If a hunter refuses to abide, they will be penalized or worse; they could be expelled.
「Is there a monster stampede or a monster attack? I haven't heard anything of that nature.」(Iraida)
The branch chief slides a single sheet of paper (request application) across the counter.
Iraida reads the suspicious request application.
Her eyes show a grim expression.
「How is this a monster stampede?」(Iraida)
As she questions the branch chief, Iraida finger points to the application.
「How, it's just as you have read. How does it not qualify as a monster stampede?」(Yakofu)
「I don't see how this could possibly qualify as a monster stampede. To begin with, it is strange that you are calling upon Kurando.」(Iraida)
Iraida is quite irritated; veins are popping up on her forehead and throat.
From behind them, Kurando takes a peek at the request.

It is a request recommended for Shiburoshika (シブロシカ, 9th star). The recipient has 10 days to complete the request, and they may complete the request at their own discretion.
Location・the large tree near the edge of the village.
Subjugation target・a flock of Toukorusuka (霧群椋鳥, トゥコルスカ, mist starling).

Proof of subjugation・『beak』.
Expiration・none, the request needs be turned in no less than one week from the acceptance date; inquire for more information.
Note・all targets must be subjugated; do not damage the large tree.
Reward・1 target is worth 1 Rodo, but payment will only be received after all targets are eliminated. (T/N: farm-able request, cough, cough)

「Iraida・Baagin, are you deaf? Please, read the request application again. The『magical beast』Toukorusuka (mist starling) has built up a『flock』near the village's water hole. Is that not a magical beast stampede?」(Yakofu)
「That's twisting the truth, besides.」(Iraida)
「What of it? The villagers need not fear the magical beasts with him here.」(Yakofu)
Iraida furrows her brow.
From behind Iraida, Kurando asks a question.
「I never heard of such a bird, can you tell me more about it. Is it normal for the flock to be there? What sort of damage are they causing?」(Kurando)
Kurando barges into the conversation causing the branch chief to glare at him.
「……on the outskirts of town, there is a giant tree; the residents around that area are disturbed by the noise and excrement dropping from those magical beasts.」(Yakofu)
「What is the village chief doing?」(Kurando)
「What could the village chief do; a request came because he was unable to anything.」(Yakofu)
「Hmm, well, how is the subjugation target different from common bird?」(Kurando)
The branch chief ponders about what Kurando is trying to say.
Kurando is inquiring about the bad explanation the branch chief had given.
「So what you're telling me is, if I were to try and use spirit magic to eliminate the birds all-at-once from the large tree; if there is even one left, another flock of them will suddenly appear and fly into the tree. Therefore, that is why they are having trouble with a flock of them as that is the bird's distinctive feature.」(Kurando)
The branch chief ponders about the confident expression Kurando is showing.
First off, you are forbidden from using anything above third class magic. Well, I

don’t know what type of magic a person who was recently a Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th star) could possibly be able to use.
I’ll give some words of wisdom to the ignorant you; when it gets dark the flock of Toukorusuka (mist starling) will gather together to rest. It is best to catch them when they are all together. In other words, it is best to eliminate them when they have gathered at the large tree on the outskirts of the village. It is up to you to figure out how to accomplish that.
Remember they must all be exterminated; otherwise, the returning flock will be increased in number many times over.
If even one is missed a larger flock will settle in the tree. At first, the village chief was hesitant to pay the fee to get rid of the birds when they were small in number. The current state is a result of him trying to deal with it on his own as he merely increased their numbers.」(Yakofu)
Third class magic is something that can be used in everyday life.『Magic that does not aim to cause bloodshed』goes into this category. Kurando who is from modern day Japan cannot help himself from grinning when thinking about powerful magic. Compared to something like a kitchen knife or an automobile, magic with killing power is on another level.

「May I borrow a net from the association?」(Kurando)
「*Hahahahahaha*, do you really think you can do it? Fine, I will lend you as many nets as you want——however, everything is over if you fail; there will be no place left for you in this village.」(Yakofu)
「Is that so?」(Kurando)
「Hey, Kurando.」(Iraida)
Iraida looks toward Kurando with a flustered expression.
「Even for me, those conditions are troublesome. Think it over, no other hunter in this village will cooperate with you.」(Iraida)
Kurando’s expression doesn’t change.
「Iraida you’ll be assisting me, right?」(Kurando)
Upon his words, Iraida blushes and her heart races. (T/N: smooth, make me wonder how was he single when he was in Japan or was he)
「As a leader (mentor) I can only provide assistance. As I have said before, this request would be difficult even for me. I won’t be able to provide much help.」(Iraida)

「I'll come up with a plan. It's nice to have someone watching my back. And besides, it is good enough that you're worried about this request.」(Kurando)
Iraida seems to have something she wanted to say, but she was unable to speak up.
Instead, she sighs.
「What's the difference; even if we work together, aren't you the one who has to come up with a plan?」(Iraida)
「Well, what does it matter; either way, I have to complete this obligatory request.」(Kurando)
Iraida stays silent as there is nothing more she could say.
Iraida forms a party with Kurando to take up the obligatory request. Later if the request happens to end in failure, Iraida who has joined Kurando's party might likely not lose favor.
It is possible that the branch chief might take Iraida's rank into consideration and withdraw the request in fear that Iraida might slander him. In this village, the moniker『queen bee』is well known. For henceforth, the future request might become troublesome.
Kurando isn't worried about Iraida, but he is worried about the villagers.
The association insists on following rules even though "said rule" contradicts common sense.

「Well, here you go.」(Kurando)
Having said so, Kurando looks to the arrogant staff member.
At present, there is no need for Kurando to make a fuss over being a hunter.
Although, Kurando does need to consider the possible that Makushiimu (マクシーム) might not return. For the time being, he needs to tolerate the situation.
The situation is comparable to the terms he had to abide by when he was still working in Japan. He is not troubled by the harsh conditions because Kurando can alway escape to somewhere else if that time ever comes.
The staff member who appears to seems to be used to this type of work processed the request. After Kurando gives his signature, a copy of the request is passed over to Kurando.
He looks over the copy of the request.
「This is an obligatory request; I can't tell how this is any difference from a normal request.」(Kurando)

The staff member looks over towards the branch chief.
「So what of it. Is there anything else?」(Yakofu)
「I do have a demand. Ah, I want to borrow a big net.」(Kurando)
The branch chief has an annoyed expression; he looks over towards the staff member and nods.
With a quick pace, the staff member goes to the back room. Another paper application is brought; Kurando signs it and a copy is handed over to Kurando.
「Please, go to the back to retrieve the net.」(staff member)
「Hmm, okay I will.」(Kurando)
Kurando exits the lobby and goes to the back of the building to borrow the biggest net he could get.

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Kurando and Iraida exited the association building and headed to the large tree near the outskirts of the village. He had accepted the big net although, Kurando wasn't sure if he would need it.
After having exited the association build, Iraida crossed her arms and furrowed her eyebrow. Her pose emphasizes the tan skin of her chest.
「What do you plan to do?」(Iraida)
「I'm thinking about it now.」(Kurando)
He borrowed the net just in case they might need it. If they didn't use it, he merely has to return it.
In response to Kurando's lack of a plan, Iraida shows a grim expression.
「Do you really know what you're doing?」(Iraida)
「It's not like things can be helped as it was an obligatory request.」(Kurando)
「……I've never heard such an obligatory request, though.」(Iraida)
Kurando shrugs his shoulders.
「What do you want me to, run away with my tail between my legs.」(Kurando)

Iraida's expression loosen and she appears amused.
「Anyhow, I live on the mountain. But still.」(Kurando)
「……I'm not trying to meddle but, do you have any family?」(Iraida)
「Alone…… ah, myself and one animal?」(Kurando)
Kurando goes into a mumbling monolog; Iraida wonders what Kurando was going on about. (T/N: and so do I)

「But, if I fail, they might try to manipulate Iraida. It does have the potential to be an honest obligatory request if all the villages come together, even the ban on the use of third class magic was lifted. Perhaps the branch chief and the village chief are both short on money.」(Kurando)
Iraida felt uneasy when she noticed that Kurando seems to think the situation is someone else's problem.
「Did you not want to become a hunter?」(Iraida)
「……ah, Iraida there is no need for you to concern yourself with that matter. Registering as a hunter is no hindrance; although up until now, it has been a pain.」(Kurando)
「Than, would it not be best to not be one? This is my first time seeing an association branch being so harsh.」(Iraida)
「I have my own circumstances. There are worst things to be than a hunter. Iraida, you're a volunteer leader (mentor), there is no need for you to apologize.」(Kurando)
「Are you aware of the other towns in this area? Well, there are a few unknown area's where people inhabit as this is a frontier region. Around Tansuku (タンスク) there is one, no two villages without an association branch. But, they all belong to the same united kingdom of Buruoruda (連合王国のブルオルダ).」(Iraida)
「I see, so that's how it is. What about the area around the mountain? Will you show me a map next time?」(Kurando)
「I can show you a map anything time, but what is it about you and this mountain…」(Iraida)
He tells her the story that Makushiimu had fabricated about Kurando's origin. Although, the part where Kurando was summoned is excluded.
Kurando was abandoned as a child on the mountain which he has never left. He was later found by Makushiimu.

「An abandoned child…… it must've been difficult. But of all things, you were recommended by Makushiimu・Daaru (マクシーム・ダール). And thus in the end things sure has become troublesome for you.」(Iraida)
Iraida doesn't seem to doubt him. Kurando feels regret.
「Is he an acquaintance of yours?」(Kurando)
Iraida makes a bitter expression.
「…… I meet him in my younger days, there's nothing more to it.」(Iraida)

Kurando is curious as to why Iraida is pouting.
「Hmm, is there anything worth mentioning?」(Kurando)
A vein on Iraida's forehead twitched as she glares at Kurando.

They arrive at the large tree near the outskirts of the village.
There they hear unpleasant chirping; chirp, chirp, chirp.
Rising above the earth wall located near the backside of the village is a large tree.
The large tree isn't too tall but it is wide in width.
The mangrove looks to be a collection of trees fused into one.
「Is this a tree the whimsical goddess, Eganadia (エガナディア), created? The blue fruits are bitter inside making them inedible. The yellow ones are sour, but the red ones are delicious; I heard they are good for hangovers and travel sickness.」(Iraida)
The fruits on the tree are still blue.
Hidden inside the tree there is numerous tiny bird. Their poop is scattered around the foot of the tree.
The average size of one of these small birds is about the size of a chicken's egg.

「This is quite eerie.」(Iraida)
Iraida rubs the goose bumps on her arms.
「Once again, another unreasonable demand. How is this a Shiburoshika (9th star) rank request?」(Kurando)
「That's what I've been telling you…… well, they probably couldn't afford to pay much.」(Iraida)
Iraida rebukes the astonished Kurando.
「Well, let me think about it for a while. I'm off to check the general store.」(Kurando)
Kurando heads back to the main road on which the general store is located.
「What will you be doing in the meantime, Iraida; will you come with me?」(Kurando)
「Is it not the leader's (mentor) role to watch over the newcomer so that they don't run away?」(Iraida)
Iraida smiles.
Her smile is as furious as alway.
Kurando doesn't say anything; he merely laughs out loud. Iraida's fist mercilessly drops down on his head.

– ToC –

Chapter 32: Request ⑤

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３２ー依頼⑤
Chapter 32 – Request ⑤

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Iraida silently watches Kurando from the sidelines.
Whenever she recalls the words he spoke, Iraida couldn’t help but wryly smile.
Not many people are suited for hunter work, she thought.

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At the general store, Kurando purchases an ink bottle and several dozen notebook-sized leaf paper. He then created a hand-made notebook by puncturing a hole through the paper and passing a string through the hole.
The general store was selling leaf paper, parchment, tough paper, and a thin white cloth-like paper that had gathered dust. Everything except for the leaf paper was expensive.
Thinking back, the request copies and even the magic formula that Kurando had received from Baron Potapenko (ポタペンコ男爵) were all written on leaf paper.
Leaf paper is manufactured and sold only in one size. This paper is able to be mass produced from the leaves of magical grass. It can last up to 2 years before it begins to fall apart.
While leaf paper could be manufactured to last longer, it is not because the cost would outweigh the price. In such cases, it was better to use high-quality paper from the start.

The quill and nib he brought are similar to those used at the association.

Previously, Kurando had been using a thin brush he crafted out of an Aromeri's (三剣角鹿, アロメリ, three-horned deer) tail. (T/N: finally, enough information to figure out what Aromeri is)
After the tip on his ball-point pen broke, in order to be able to continue writing notes in the magic textbook, Kurando had to make a brush.
On the mountain to make ink, he boiled down branches, bone, and soot with water to blend a suitable residue. The result was something similar to a deteriorated version of Indian ink.
Kurando had decided to buy ink because he was carrying none.
Although there weren't many items, for being on the frontier, there is abundant of stock. Thankfully, the general store happened to be selling the same type of paper that is used at the association.
Nevertheless, the association would probably sell anyone some as long as they had the money.
Despite being on the pricey side, the customers happily bought the ink and paper. Perhaps, for being on the frontier, the goods are more or less sold at a discount.

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Kurando is quietly gazing at the Toukorusuka (霧群椋鳥, トゥコルスカ, mist starling) that are in the large tree.
Quite a bit of time has passed since he had returned from the general store.
He doesn't seem to be using the notebook or brush.

Morning has passed and evening is currently approaching.
Kurando suddenly opens his mouth.
「Would it be alright for me to shake the tree as long as I don't harm the bird or the tree?」(Kurando)
Iraida yawns.
「Ah, as long as you don't harm or kill them, they shouldn't abnormally start breeding.」(Iraida)
「Is that so?」(Kurando)
After asking, Kurando looks back at the tree.
The next day and then the day after, Kurando continued to observe the Toukorusuka (mist starling).

Iraida is keeping him company.
However, she is holding a bottle of alcohol in her hand.
After observing the Toukorusuka (mist starling), Kurando would walk around the village, or walk around outside the village.
The 2nd day. The 3rd day. When the Toukorusuka(s) are sleeping in the tree, Kurando would shake the tree while shouting in a loud voice.
Some time later, rumors about Kurando's eccentric behavior began to circulate around the village. (T/N: guy is crazy, who would've guess, cough, cough)

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The 4th day, early morning.
「It could work.」
Kurando mumbles something to himself.
While waiting at their campsite, from a distance Iraida sees Kurando near the tree. She is surprised that he hasn't given up.
「Should I continue to keep you company; is there really any hope of success?」 (Iraida)
Kurando grins. From his notebook, he shows her a picture of his plan.

Iraida thought Kurando's explanation was well done.
「You…… you're quite good at drawing pictures.」 (Iraida)
He makes a bashful expression.
「Well…… it's a hobby mine.」 (Kurando)
「*Ahahahaha*, what an unusual hunter you are. By far, you're the most interesting fellow I have met during mine time with the association. *Kukuku, Ahahaha*.」 (Iraida)
She seems to be a little drunk.
「*Tsk*, are those the words of a drunk?」 (Kurando)
「This amount of alcohol isn't enough to dull my senses. Well…… when do we start?」 (Iraida)
Iraida broadly grins as she said this.

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While Iraida went to inform the surrounding residents about their plan, Kurando went to fetch the net that he had borrowed from the association.
Iraida had simply explained to the villagers that the birds will no longer be a

problem.
Bringing the big net to the outskirts of the village was quite a laborious task, but Kurando safely carries out his work.
Their plan will be put into operation at midnight when the Toukorusuka(s) are asleep.

There was never a time when the Toukorusuka left the village.
To be more accurate, the flock of Toukorusuka won't leave the village. The watering hole serves as their feeding ground and the place where they roost.
Kurando used spirit magic to check if there are any stray Toukorusuka wandering around, but there were none.
The day ends, and the birds return to the tree to sleep.
If Kurando were to have abode by the rules of the village or the rules of the association; if he were to have followed the common sense of this country/ land, then the request would've been impossible.
However, Kurando is from modern day Japan.

Having returned after completing her task, Iraida turns towards Kurando and smiles.
No problems had arisen; their plan is good to go.

The sky has grown dark.
There is no moonlight shining in the night sky.
Suddenly——

A high pitch sound loud enough to rupture a person's eardrum rings out.

It is followed by a blinding explosion.

The net is quickly spread above the tree.

Before anyone noticed it, a donut made of water circled the tree and then became frozen.

Shadows rushed out of the tree.

Kurando and Iraida had made their move.
After the flash, the birds had been collected by the net and are hanging around the tree's trunk. The current state of affair is now being confirmed.
The Toukorusuka were made to faint and fall from the tree's branches. With the

help of wind spirits, the net was then lowered and wrapped. This was all done without using powers that would have killed the small birds.
It is over, the Toukorusuka were frozen to death, water now drips from their corpses.
The residents came to see what had happened.
However, the local residents show doubtful expressions.
The beautiful Iraida had requested them to come here today to prove to them that the small birds were no longer be a nuance. As a result of the request having a low reward and low priority, it had been neglected for a long period of time.
This was all due to the village chief's incompetent.
Kurando and Iraida display their caught so that all could see it.
There was no trouble at all.
「What going on?」(Yakofu)
The branch chief pushes his way passed the villagers. With him is an old man with a long beard.
They came to inquire about the loud explosion.
Kurando and Iraida didn't notice the branch chief's voice.
With his eyebrows furrowed, the branch chief rushes over and grabs Kurando's shoulders.
「You're in the way, get out of the way.」(Kurando)
Kurando is busy and has no time to spare.
Kurando's strong arm brushes away the branch chief. This time, the branch chief tries contacting Iraida.
「Did you need something?」(Iraida)
She doesn't push him aside like Kurando did, but Iraida appears annoyed.
「Can't you tell? Look at the time.」(Yakofu)
Iraida also appears fatigue.
The branch chief had no choice but to put up with their ill-humored expressions.

The sun had risen by the time Kurando and Iraida were finished gathering up the beaks.
Before removing the net, Kurando shook the tree a few times and used shadow magic to check for stragglers.

One bird tries to fly away.
And then another.

The branch chief grins, while the elderly man turned pale.

A humming sound is heard and then a Toukorusuka falls to the ground. Another sound is heard; the second bird falls down to the ground.

Iraida had shot her arrow, while Kurando had thrown his boomerang. Kurando felt glad that he had a boomerang.

「How about giving me an explanation? Why did you use 2nd class magic?」 (Yakofu)
Kurando and Iraida look at another, Iraida speaks up.
「Where do you see the use of 2nd class magic?」 (Iraida)
The branch chief's eyes narrow.
「Where else could that light and sound possible come from? It had to have been from at least a 2nd class, possible 1st class magic. As there are many witnesses, you have no excuses.」 (Yakofu)
「Where, I don't see any use of 2nd or 1st class magic?」 (Iraida)
「Where, over by the tree…… how can this be?」 (Yakofu)
The morning sun illuminates the tree.
A pile of Toukorusuka corpses can be seen near the large tree. Although the circumference of the tree seems to be wet, the tree doesn't have a single wound.
There is no trace of destructive 2nd class magic or large scale 1st class magic having been used.
「I don't see anything out of the ordinary. The tree doesn't seem to be damaged. There is only evidence of 3rd class magic having been used.」 (Iraida)
「That why I'm telling you to give me an explanation.」 (Yakofu)
The branch chief is shouting.
Iraida shrugs her shoulder and looks toward Kurando.
Kurando laughs and grins before giving a response.
「——it's a secret.」 (Kurando)
He doesn't want to reveal the information for free and he especially doesn't want to tell the branch chief.
The branch chief's face turns bright red; he tries to say something but there is no target to vent his anger upon. Having lost sight of his purpose, the branch chief leaves the area. On the bearded old's face is a broad smile. A while later, the old

man followed after the branch chief.

Presently, the villagers are able to drink without worry. No matter how many days pass by, the Toukorusuka will no longer cause a racket. That is the current circumstance for the villagers.
Alone, Kurando raised his victory cry.
His shouts of joy continue to grow ever so louder.

The method he used was simple.
To a person from modern day Japan, it would be known as a stun grenade made from a spirit magic combo.
The explosive sound was caused by wind spirits, while the flash was caused by light spirits.
Iraida's job was to manage the net by using the wind spirits, while Kurando handled all of the other roles.
His job was cause the explosion, make the flash, make the ring of water, freeze the water, and scout the tree using dark spirit magic. After they finished, Kurando's maryoku was on the verge of drying up.
Why was it that no one else tried this method?
Iraida gave him several reasons.

First off, all the methods that involve capturing the Toukorusuka all-at-once have one thing in common.

They must use spirit magic in a certain manner. The thing is, no Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th star) would use magic is such a way because the magic they use is meant to kill magical beast; it isn't meant to not harm the magical beast. There is no middle ground, hunters use magic for its high killing power as it is common place to use it that way.

Another reason, how many people possesses the ability to use the 3rd class branch magic explosion & flash, which are said to be a waste of maryoku. Not many would've been able to utilize all of the magic that Kurando had used all at the same time. For a hunter knowing so many types of magic is simply not cost-effective.

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「Are you planning to eat them?」(Iraida)

He conversates with Iraida as he plucks the Toukorusuka's feathers.
「Is it any good?」(Kurando)
「It tastes bad if the blood isn't drained. It's best to just leave it (throw it away).」(Iraida)
「Well, I'll just try a bit of it then.」(Kurando)
The plucked feathers are put into a bag.
「You know, it is still evening, it's not too late to go drinking.」(Iraida)
「Drinking again?」(Kurando)
「Why not, tag along with me?」(Iraida)
As she said this, Iraida had placed her hand on her hip.
「As your leader (mentor), since this is our first request together, it's my treat—— come on, let's go drink some delicious alcohol?」(Iraida)
Before the villagers had left, several of them, insisted Kurando and Iraida join the after party.
Mostly likely, they are at the tavern.
Kurando sighs. While he continued to pluck the birds, he appeared to be slight glad.

By the time he had collected enough Toukorusuka's feathers, to create a feather pillow, Kurando appeared rather tired.
It was quite the laborist work. He was too exhausted to gather enough of them to make a large pillow, though.
While he gathered the feathers, Kurando had checked to see if there were any survivors.
There were none.

To complete the request, the Toukorusuka's beaks need to be turned in at the association.
Kurando felt refreshed upon seeing the twitching face of the arrogant staff member. He had the urge to mock the staff member.
520 beaks, 520 Rodo. (52,000 yen)

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Kurando heads straight for the tavern after turning in the request. There are merely a few taverns in the village.
Iraida happened to be at the noises tavern.

He was able to find the tavern right away.
「Hey, you came.」(Iraida)
There is an empty bottle in front of Iraida. She appears to be drunk.
Around them, the villages are having a grand party; they don't seem to be holding back.
After taking a sit across from her, Kurando handed over half the request's reward to Iraida. During all of this, he never took his eyes off her.
「Huh? The leader (mentor) should only receive 10% of the reward.」(Iraida)
「I insist, I couldn't have done it without you. Please take it.」(Kurando)
「*Hmm*~, what a pain. Alright, I'll use it to pay for the drinks today, now drink up.」(Iraida)
She passes a cup of Vuogira (ヴォギラ) over to Kurando.
In contempt, Kurando places his share of the tab on the table.
「*Hmph*…… oh well, let's make a toast.」(Iraida)
Iraida raises her bottle of Vuogira up into the air.
Mimicking her, Kurando taps his cup against her bottle.
They drink.
Iraida placed her bottle on the table and then muttered something.

「For you a leader (mentor) is unnecessary.」(Iraida)

– ToC –

Chapter 33: Hero ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３３ー勇者①
Chapter 33 – Hero ①

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

30 days, 60 days, 90 days had passed by. On the calendar, the blue moon switched to the yellow moon. (T/N: I don't know, okay)
During this time the upper stratum of Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain has entered its warmest period and the peak of breeding season.
Naturally, the subalpine, the forest zone and the wilderness located near the summit have all become warm. In short, summer has come, and now Sarewado (サレハド) village has entered their busiest season.

The change of the season didn't alter Kurando's daily routine. While accepting Shiodzuke (塩漬け) type requests, every day, he would travel back and forth from the village to the mountain.
Behind his back, the local hunters would call Kurando the『straydog "Black (野良犬, ブラーカ)"』. Although, the villagers have a favorable opinion of him.
Any hooligan (hunter) that dares put their hand on the『straydog "Black"』will have their arm seized as if bitten by a dog. On numerous occasions, people have witness Zauru (ザウル) and the branch chief being bitten when they tried to go against him. Because Kurando would alway take up the leftover (shiodzuke) requests from the other hunters, eventually his nickname stuck.

Kurando was especially hostile towards Zauru & the branch chief. When they encountered one another they would alway quarrel.
The majority of the shiodzuke requests that Kurando had accepted involved him

traveling to the middle and upper stratum of the mountain, which happened to be close to his home.

During those 90 days: Iraida would instruct him on how to use a small knife and shield; every now and then, he would offer Baron Potapenko (ポタペンコ男爵) delicacies; and, when ever he had free-time Kurando would research autonomous magic and practice his spirit magic.
Despite his maryoku capacity increase only a bit, Kurando continues to exhaust his maryoku as his maryoku capacity is still increasing.
Recently, when time allowed it; to enrich his daily life Kurando would draw pictures, and search for musical instruments.

While Makushiimu (マクシーム) hadn't yet returned, Kurando was enjoying his everyday life.

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That night.
While looking at Iraida (イライダ), Kurando tried to comprehend the meaning of her remark.
「There is no need for you to be a lone wolf; you're too young to distance yourself from the group. I can't tell what you're thinking…… is a leader (mentor) unnecessary for you.」(Iraida)
Kurando is so surprised that he almost fell backward along with his chair.
「Is it that you rather have the power to stand on your own, then hunt with other people? If it is spirit magic, then you are already more skilled than I, or should I say more dexterous than I am. Well, it is silly to make a comparison to someone from the giant race. For now, why not try becoming a man (adult).」(Iraida)
While laughing, Iraida tosses over a bottle of Vuogira (ヴォギラ) to Kurando
What does Kurando, a 26-year-old man, say when Iraida see him as a chicken?
「……become a man (adult), that is an obscene thing for you to say, Iraida.」(Kurando)
「Ahhh? Aren't you the one who is alway peeking at my chest?」(Iraida)
「Well that's because you proudly have them on display.」(Kurando)
「It's genetics, okay genetics. When I move my body it gets hot and I can't help it.」(Iraida)
「*Hmph*, you have a distasteful hobby.」(Kurando)

「Really now, what do you think of me?」
「……you're an exhibitionist?」(Kurando)
While Kurando recalls Makushiimu, he can't help but think all giants are exhibitionist.
Iraida's cheeks cramp up.
「……so that's how you see it.」(Iraida)
With a bang, Iraida placed down the bottle in front of Kurando.
「Will you drink delicious alcohol, or are you saying my alcohol tastes bad?」(Iraida)
「……a good drink, huh?」(Kurando)
After saying so, he stood up.
「Are you running away?」(Iraida)
Iraida says this provocatively.
「Hold on a moment.」(Kurando)
After say this, Kurando made his way to the bartender by the counter.
He exchanged two to three words with the bartender before returning back to Iraida with the items he had recieved.
Kurando had returned with an empty bottle, a reddish liquid, and a yellowish colored fruit juice.
Before Iraida could say anything; Kurando poured half of the Vuogira, half of the reddish liquid, and half of the yellowish fruit juice into the empty bottle. Lastly, he placed an ice cube about the size of a hen egg inside the bottle.
The bottle is then shut before Kurando properly shakes the bottle. As he shakes the bottle, the ice cube inside makes a cool but chill sound.
Because Kurando didn't know the proper method to shake the bottle, he did it as best he could.
And thus, Iraida watches as the cocktail is poured into the cup.
「Will you drink it?」
Although she found it suspicious, Iraida accepts the cocktail (cup).
She brings it closer to her lips.
On Iraida's face is a surprised expression.
The acidity of the fruit makes the alcohol sweet, but the flavor is strong and smooth.
Above all, the drink is cold and refreshing.

「……is this alcohol delicious enough for you?」(Kurando)
Kurando shows a bit of skill here and there.
「This cocktail is a mess.」(Iraida)
He laughs at the criticism.
Iraida lowers her eyes onto the light red-colored cocktail.
Each region has their own style of preparing cocktails, but they are all served warm. She has never seen any place that served their cocktails cold. If bartenders were to chill their drinks with ice spirits every time, they would fall over. Cold drinks haven't spread thus they aren't popular.
Kurando hears Iraida mutter something while she was staring at her cup.
「Vuogira, Eganadia (女神の気まぐれ, エガナディア, the whimsical goddess) soaked her skin in alcohol; Eganadia, in madness she mixed in yellow fruit juice,」(Iraida)
「Would it be medicine, or was she crazy?」(Kurando)
「It probably means, that when this Vuogira is mixed with anything else it becomes a completely different drink.」(Iraida)
The other guest would either drink their Vuogira straight or dilute it with water before drinking it.
「Well, it's not bad. It is easier to drink then the former alcohol.」(Iraida)
「*Ah*, it sure is difficult to find an alcohol good enough to break through the skin of the whimsical goddess, Eganadia.」(Kurando)
「Anyways, it has to have been medicine as Vuogira was first used to treat colds.」(Iraida)
Kurando nods in agreement. (T/N: it was nonsense, like a lot of the other dialog in this novel)
Afterward, the two of them drank but since the evening was long, Kurando chose to drink at his own pace.
When there was still a bit of daylight left in the sky, Kurando sank to the table as he was starting to feel sleepy.
There is no mistake, the Eganadia's (whimsical goddess) skin had been penetrated by a large amount of alcohol. Having continued to consume the cocktails that were mixed for her, Iraida has become intoxicated. It is a rather cheerful and rare scene to see her swaying like a "rocking ship".
If those from the giant race drink enough alcohol, then even they would get dead drunk.

The sleepy Iraida found her shoulders to be light.
Likewise, Kurando was also half asleep while sitting in his chair.
「Shall we return?」(Iraida)
Upon saying so, Iraida stood up and headed for the exit. She paid for the both of them by leaving the money on the table.
On the moonlit road, the two made their way to the inn.

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Morning, or perhaps it's noon.
As the dazzling light from outside the window fell upon him, Kurando slowly opens his eyes.
After he had picked up his groggy body, Kurando was assaulted by a headache and then the urge to urinate.
While holding his aching head, Kurando hung up his coat before making his way to the bathroom to urinate and vomit.
After rinsing his mouth, Kurando returns to what he thought was his room but was instead an unfamiliar scenery.

The light pours into the room, and there laying on the bed is a woman.
A woman with tanned colored skin like that of the giant race is asleep on the bed.

Kurando holds his head once more. No matter how much he thinks, he can't recall what had happened.
The woman, Iraida, lays up in bed with the blanket wrapped around her body.
「Oh, do you have a hangover?」(Iraida)
Iraida is acting the same as usual.
His expression is shattered.
「I can't tell what you're' thinking, say what you mean.」(Iraida)
Kurando felt dizzy. He decided to blame it on the hangover.
「*Ah*, you see, I don't remember what happened, well, *umm*…… do you, marriage?」(Kurando)
「Does it look that way to you?」(Iraida)
「I see, I'm glad, right? Well, *umm*, that's good.」(Kurando)
And once again, Kurando returns to the bathroom to vomit.

When he returns to the room, Kurando sees Iraida. She wasn't an illusion.

「Good grief, is that how you should treat a woman…… don't worry, nothing happened…… probably.」(Iraida)
「What about you, is that how you should react to a guy…… perhaps, well, as long as things are okay, then,」(Kurando)
Iraida seems to be regretting it.
「It was just sleeping together once (maybe), even if we were lover, it's not like am an inexperienced virgin.」(Iraida)
「Well, certainly, it's not like you're an innocent virgin.」(Kurando)
「*Ahhh*?」(Iraida)
「Yup, being naive is a pain.」(Kurando)
「Are you not the one who is inexperienced.」(Iraida)
Kurando made a faint frown.
「Well, if you're saying that, then please teach me next time.」(Kurando)
Kurando leaves with those parting words and makes his way back to the toilet.
Iraida who was left behind lays back down and covers herself with the blanket.
Suddenly, Kurando who she had merely know for a short while seemed to become someone strangely familiar as if she had known him for a long time.
「……next time, as long as you have the money. *Kukuku*」(Iraida)
While being in a good mood Iraida takes a nap.

On this day, Kurando experienced his first hangover in this world.
His intimacy with the toilet had increased.
This was the first time since he came to this world that Kurando had requested help from god.
Kurando began to think that he wouldn't be able to live without the toilet.
Half a day later, he cursed the non-existent god.

The day after his hangover, Kurando went to purchase food and other miscellaneous goods before making his way to the mountain.
After having been gone for so long, when Kurando returned home, he saw the super displeased Yukishiro sitting on the cliff and watching him from above.
Yukishiro didn't come over even when he had whistled for it. While he ascended up the cliff, Kurando had half expected Yukishiro to be in a bad mood. And, it was as he had expected.

Yukishiro had been waiting for Kurando to return since two days ago.

Akari didn't seem to mind because she gets to use the feather pillow when he isn't around.
In a way, Kurando thought he was like a "salaryman (businessman)" who has to leave on work related trips. It was a rather silly way of seeing it, though.

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90 days have passed. During those days, when there weren't any shiodzuke requests to take, Kurando would party up with Iraida.
He was unconcerned with those people who thought ill of him for partying up with Iraida.
In life, one will always wear half a mask anyways.
Today was also that sort of day.
Kurando and Iraida had gone to the association to look for a request.
The time for Iraida to『fullfill her duty』and move to the next country is soon approaching. Because Kurando is familiar with the Arerudouria mountain range, he was able to help Iraida quickly complete the high-level requests that the country had issued.
The people around him probably still thinks that Iraida had partied up with Kurando out of pity.
Kurando and Iraida, at best, they would only be about to take up one, or perhaps two more request(s) before she would have to leave to go fulfill her duty.
「So it's already time to hunt, Gorushazo(s) (六瘤バッファロー, ゴルシャゾ)か, six-humped baffalo).」(Iraida)
He turns to face Iraida.
「*Ah*, around this time the Gorushazo (six-humped baffulo) travels the continent (migrate) in search for grass. During this season there will be no Torabokku (トラボック) to hunt as Gorushazo(s) will consume them for nutrients in order to breed.」(Iraida)
「*Ehwee*~」(Kuando)
「*Hmm*, why don't you try gathering information…… *ah*, well, that might be an impossible task in this village.」(Iraida)
「Well, hey, how about this request?」(Kurando)
Iraida directs a strained smile to the easygoing Kurando.
「With only us two that would be quite difficult.」(Iraida)
「——do you have a moment?」(???)

Was this misfortune or perhaps good fortune?
Imagine having to go back to your hometown after becoming unemployed and then suddenly meeting a former classmate at the supermarket. It is that sort of sudden and surprise encounter.
For Kurando, this is an unfortunate encounter.

As if they were unconcerned with Kurando the person proceeds to talk with Iraida who is standing beside him.
But, it was rather fortunate that the person didn't recognize Kurando.
「Iraida・Baagin-san (イライダ・バーギン), correct? That request, would you like to accept it with me?」(???)
The person has fluffy black curly hair and eyes that reflect his strong will. This person gives off the impression that they have a dazzling personality.
「That is rather sudden; what's your name?」(Iraida)
「S-sorry. I was so moved by meeting you that I forgot to introduce myself. I'm Erika・Kiritani (エリカ・キリタニ), a Beruchigaba (ベルチガバ, 6th star). Please, just call me, Erika.」(Erika)
Erika made a bow like a Japanese person would.
This person is definitely Japanese. In other words, he is also a hero.
The hero who has introduced himself as Erika doesn't recall Kurando's face. He doesn't seem to notice Kurando at all.
「Is that so, I'm Iraida・Baagin, a Gabodorattsue (ガボドラッツェ, 4th star). I'm alright with simply being called, Iraida. Umm, isn't this request too high-level for your rank?」(Iraida)
「Not at all. I'm a member of the『Pennant of Dawn (暁の翼, ペナントオブドーン)』. The leader is a Riguserupu (リグセルプ, 1st star), you know.」(Erika)
Erika seems to be proud of this fact.
「Oh, a Riguserupu (1st star), huh. I don't think I've heard of this person before.」(Iraida)
「Well, that because he just became one the other day. Fufufu, it only took him one year to become a Riguserupu (1st star). The person's name is, Hayato・Ichihara.」(Erika)
Although Kurando showed a reaction, the person didn't recognize Kurando at all.
Erika must've been the type of person who doesn't take notice of a lowly janitor.
「I see. However, this person is a Ruterera (10th star). Will it really be okay?」

(Iraida)
For the first time, Erika looks behind Iraida and noticed Kurando. Erika slightly tilts his head and intently stares at Kurando.
「So, Iraida-san who is a Gabodorattsue, teamed up with a Ruterera? Huh, the association rules state that hunters shouldn't party up with a hunter no more than 2 stars below their own rank.」 (Erika)
「That is a suggestion more than a rule. Anyways, the party has already been formed. And, wouldn't that suggestion also apply to you?」 (Iraida)
「*Fufufu*, it's my defeat. We're in the same boat it seems.」 (Erika)
Erika who was glaring at Kurando suddenly changed his expression into a smile. This Erika person seems to be moody when it comes to women.

Kurando barges in the conversation.
「Excuse me, I have some urgent business to attend to. I won't be able to take up a request.」 (Kurando)
Kurando briefly made eye contact with Iraida before making his way out of the association building.
「Is that guy just leeching off you? That's no good, Iraida-san a beauty such as yourself,」 (Erika)
Erika continues to shower Iraida with flattery.
She watches as Kurando exits through the swing door.

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「*Ah, Hayato-san, too slow*~」 (Erika)
Shortly after Erika had kept Iraida company, a man enters the association. Like a spoiled child, Erika angrily calls out to the man.
The man called Hayato is wearing a smooth and deep black leather armor, on his back is a shiny two-handed sword. Around the leather belt at his waist hangs two metal objects which purpose is unknown.
The man doesn't reply to Erika, but he gradually approaches them until his face comes into view.
Hayato has neatly trimmed black hair, confident black eyes, and a deep scar on his cheek. His teenage face gives off a neutral expression.
Iraida noticed that Kurando and Hayato have similar features. When she thought about it, she saw that Erika also had a similar look to him. Iraida begins to think

that this current situation had something to do with the reason Kurando left, but she wasn't sure.
While she is still in this country, Iraida decided on asking Kurando more about it. Although, she felt a slight uneasiness.

「Do not call out to me in a loud voice. So, have you decided on the request?」 (Hayato)
Although he sounds arrogant, it isn't as prideful as the manner in which Zauru (ザウル) talks.
「About that, will it be alright to invite Iraida-san along.」 (Erika)
Hayato glanced at the Gorushazo (six-humped baffulo) request before looking over towards Iraida.

「I'm Hayato・Ichihara (ハヤト・イチハラ). It will be an honor to have the renown 『Bee Stinger (蜂撃)』, Iradia・Baagin, accompany us.」 (Hayato)
Although his manners are correct, there is no change in his tone.
But strangely enough, his manner of speech suited him.

– ToC –

Chapter 34: Hero ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３４ー勇者②

Chapter 34 – Hero ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The village is about several hours away from Kurando's home in the mountain. By the time he had reached his destination, it was morning; it took him the rest of the day to return to the top of the mountain. Upon his arrive, Kurando saw Akari and Yukishiro waiting idly by outside in front of the cave.

Akari looks to Kurando with an expression that seems to ask, "What happened?". With its tail slowly swaying about, Yukishiro seemed to be bothered about Kurando's early return.

On Kurando's face is a fed-up expression.

「Ah…… there is a chance that that Ichihara person is coming to the village.」(Kurando)

Akari's eyes widen.

「It would be a pain to run into him so I left. I don't know the details, but I meet Erica・Kiritani of『Pennant of Dawn (暁の翼, ペナントオブドーン)』.」(Kurando)

After talking about Hayato, Kurando seemed very troubled.

But suddenly, Kurando didn't seem as concerned after he began to caress Yukishiro's back. His expression became pleasant. (T/N: animal therapy)

Akari felt envious of Kurando and Yukishiro's relationship. While unaware of the pleasure it had given Kurando, Yukishiro it merely rolls on the ground as he pets it.

The two people and one animal return to the cave.

Although it is warm like the beginning of spring outside, it is chilly inside the cave.
「Why do you think they came here?」(Kurando)
As they sit around the fireplace, Kurando listens to Akari.
Akari furrows her eyebrows as she thought about it for a little while.
「……they could be after me. Although, I don't know if their intention is good or bad.」(Akari)
「What do you mean?」(Kurando)
「Maybe they heard about my situation and came to help, or perhaps, they came to capture me? I wonder which is it? If I had to say, 8:2 (8 to 2) it is the former probability. Chances are, when Makushiimu-san (マクシーム) reached the temple, rumor had circulated and Hayato-san (ハヤト) heard about my situation.」(Akari)
Because they were former classmates, Akari declared that there is a 20% chance that Hayato and company could be her enemy.
「A classmate will come to help you, that is a rather confident assumption to make.」(Kurando)
Kurando says this in a condescending manner.
「Please stop it, you're mistaken. That person may be selfish, but he has his own way of caring. Certainly, I'm grateful to him. I believe that Hayato-san would've done the same for me just as he had for Erica. But, I wanted to be independent so I followed-up on Makushiimu's invitation instead.」(Akari)
「*Ehh*. Well, the easiest way to determine if he is an enemy or not is to check with your『Radar Map (不安定な地図と索敵, レーダーマップ)』. You can't hide here on the mountain forever now.」(Kurando)
「No, even if Hayato happens to be an enemy that doesn't mean the『Radar Map』will response.」(Akari)
Kurando thought Akari's actions to be suspicious.
「Are you saying,『 divine blessings』don't affect fellow『heroes』?」(Kurando)
「Wait……doesn't that mean the scythe of truth is insignificant?」(Kurando)
I believe so, but if I had to say for sure, my answer would be, no. There was an incident when one of the heroes was greatly injured and then saved by the healing ability of a fellow hero. If I were to use that as an example, my conclusion would be that, for a hero's blessing to effect a fellow hero, the recipient needs to accept it before it can be received. I feel blessings works in the same manner as

life spirit magic as they need permission beforehand.
In the case of the『scythe of fact (事実の大鎌, ファクトサイズ)』, without the divine blessing, it is merely an ordinary iron scythe. Whether one lies or tells the truth, it won't change the fact that the scythe doesn't have anymore or any less killing power than a simple sword or spear.」(Akari)
「Is it good or bad, I can't tell the difference?」(Kurando)
「It's not that simple. The scythe can put up a physical barrier; however, the『scythe of fact's』perfect barrier is fairly meaningless. Well, the barrier is sort of used to put the other party『on trail』, it cannot be used for combat.」(Akari)
Kurando shows an expression that implies he is thinking about something.
「……will blessings work on me?」(Kurando)
The problem is Kurando has lost his hero ability, it is unknown how『divine blessing』effect him.
Akari shakes her head no.
「Probably not. Jani…… Kurando-san, my ability has never recognized you as an enemy, because I truly never thought of you as a threat. From my observation, the thing is, and when I go hunting with Iruniiku (イルニーク), my ability never reacted. Well, I won't go as far to say that I don't know how my marking function works.」(Akari)
「Don't mistaken my name. Whenever I hear the word, Janitor, I can't help but recall that guy.」(Kurando)
「S-sorry.」(Akari)
Kurando hates being referred to as janitor. Anyhow, there probably isn't anyone who knows the Janitor's full name. (T/N: no one would want to be can janitor)
「But even so, are you, my enemy?」(Kurando)

Akari's field of vision shakes.
Kurando jumped over the fireplace and pushes Akari down.
「*Eh*」(Akari)
She could not comprehend the situation; while being surprised and perplexed, Akari lets out a yelp. Kurando closed the cave's entrance.
He tears off the buttons on her shirt, revealing her bra-less chest; Kurando then placed his hand on top her small breast.
「*N-no*」(Akari)
Akari flails her arms as how a woman would and she hits Kurando directly in the

face.
However, Kurando is unfazed by her resistances; he unfastened the belt around her waist and inserts his hand inside.
「*N-noooooo*」(Akari)

「——h-how about now.」(Kurando)
He stopped before it got dangerous and goes back to being his stupid & easygoing self. Kurando plays it off as he had no intentions of going any further.
At long last, his voice reached the ears of the frantic Akari.
「Is it red?」(Kurando)
Akari calms down; she checks her『radar map (不安定な地図と索敵, レーダーマップ)』.
Aside from the black dot that represents herself, there was nothing else.
In other words, the hero's blessing isn't effective.
Although this theory cannot be verified, Akari's ability has nothing to do with her accepting or not doubting a fellow hero. This means if by some chance a fellow hero becomes Akari's opponent, her ability might not react to them. It is better for Kurando to come up with an alternate course of action.
「Nothing.」(Akari)
And just like that, Kurando casually walked back to his spot by the fireplace.

「There were other methods, it didn't have to be the old-fashion way.」(Akari)
Akari looks at Kurando with a sharp, cold and piercing gaze as if she was looking at filth.
「Really? But with this method, even if I'm not seen as an enemy, you will be alerted by your female instinct…….」(Kurando)
Kurando stares at Akari's abdomen.
「*Wh,* wh*,* wh*,* where are you staring at,」(Akari)
「Well, as you can see. Please forgive me.」(Kurando)
「Ah, that was a crime. This isn't a manga, that was totally sexual harassment. Not forgiven; nope, I won't forgive.」(Akari)
Kurando made a puzzled expression.
「Wh, what is with that expression. I am not the one who was wrong.」(Akari)
「Well, for me it was a life or death situation, so please forgive me.」(Kurando)
Kurando suddenly bows down.
He really needed to know how a『hero's』『divine blessings』would effect『a

fellow summoned person』as it would greatly influence his next course of act. Anyhow, she understood his reason and couldn't continue to blame him.
「……it fine. You have sheltered me up until now, so I'll pardon you this time.」(Akari)
「Sorry.」(Kurando)
「Enough already. But, we still don't know for sure that there isn't a perfect divine blessing. Remember, there was a loophole, Hayato-san had confirmed that. We don't know who will make the first move; therefore stay vigilant. However, fight back only when it is necessary.」(Akari)

「Umm, since I don't want to end up killing that guy, I'll stay up here in the mountain.」(Kurando)
Yukishiro who was behind them yawned. Although when it heard that Kurando will be staying on the mountain its ear twitched.
「Kill him, that is a bit,」(Akari)
Akari somehow calmed down after changing her clothes. She silently protests from a safe distance away from the questionable Kurando.
「He is a Riguserupu (リグセルプ, 1st-star) now, and something of a hero among the heroes, right?」(Kurando)
「Eh, already…… it must have been a special exception.」(Akari)
Akari sees Kurando show an unfamiliar expression.
「……Didn't someone give you a rough explanation when you registered as a hunter?」(Akari)
「*Umm*, Makushiimu didn't mention anything about it.」(Kurando)
「*Ahaha*, Makushiimu-san, huh. Then it couldn't be helped. A special case is, well, a special assignment. In simpler terms, it is something like a merit system. You see, the hunter association will mark magical beasts or monsters that could possibly cause a significant amount of damage to people; if a hunter subjugates, let us say, a dragon type monster that happens to be attacking a town, the association will raise their rank by giving them a special promotion. For Hayato to reach his current rank in merely two years, chances are, he had to at least defeat a dragon level monster. Well, I did hear a rumor a while back,」(Akari)
「……a dragon, they exist,」(Kurando)
「They do. Although, disaster level request such as that hardly ever occurs. At best, a wyvern would appear.」(Akari)

「I see. That bastard, Hayato is a hero among the heroes and a hero to the country. If it were to become know that he had stolen the ability of a fellow hero, it would cause a scandal. I could be killed. Well, it is not like they will believe the words of a refugee such as myself.」(Kurando)
「……I wish it wouldn't come down to that, though. But, it is an undeniable truth.」(Akari)
After Akari had gained her ability, she had gained the malice of other people. Having been in a similar position herself, Akari knew how easy people betray one another. Besides, Kurando isn't a hero; he is just a person, for that reason they mostly likely would not negotiate with him.
「Well, that's how things stand. For now, I'll keep Yukishiro company.」(Kurando)
「Really? Now that Hayato has come, perhaps, Makushiimu will return shortly.」(Akari)
Kurando leans against Yukishiro's back.
In protest, Yukishiro made a displeased expression while swaying its tail back and forth.

◆◆◆

5 days later, in the early morning, Makushiimu returned.
He had brought along with him several female hunters.

Kurando glared at Makushiimu with a cold heart and hostile gaze.
Yukishiro who is behind Kurando gave a threatening growl.
「……scum.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu had broken his promise and informed another party. Kurando was too naive; although he knew it was wishful thinking on his part, he couldn't help but become angry after having been betrayed.
「Well, hear me out, it is all for Akari's sake.」(Makushiimu)
「……there should have been another way. This method is risky for both me…… and Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
Anyone could plainly see that Kurando had lost interest in dealing with Makushiimu. Kurando showed an apathetic expression toward him.
Kurando's angry expression doesn't resemble that of a fierce animal nor a poisonous insect and neither does it compare to the face of a vengeful ghost.

「You are still young, there is no need to make that sort of expression.」(???)

A voice soothes the rising tension.
From behind Makushiimu, a person steps forward.
The owner of the voice is a slender and elegant elderly woman. Her back is upright and she is wearing a single piece of leather armor don with a green robe. Above all, her ears are long and tapered. In other words, she is an elf.
She has the appear of a human woman in her 50s. The expressionless Kurando thinks she is a beautiful person.
「I had asked Makushiimu to bring me here. I will not intrude on your lively hood.」(???)
「It is a fact that you have come here, that in itself is a threat. In the first place, who are you?」(Kurando)
「My apologize for not introducing myself sooner. I manage those under the『moon goddess's attendant, Maruuna・Niyuumu (月の女神の付き人, マルゥナ・ニュゥム)』, they call me Oofuia (オーフィア). In truth, my name is much longer, but Oofuia is good enough.」(Oofuia)
「……it's Kurando. So, Oofuia, san, what is your business here?」(Kurando)
Kurando regains his composer and the tension in his tone of voice returns.
It was difficult for him to not properly address a senior; as a result, Kurando lost track of his anger.
He had made a mistake; Kurando should not have been polite as the other party had picked up on his hesitation. And thus, Oofuia stands her ground against the tense atmosphere.
「First off, I am here to serve as the young lady, Akari-san, guard until the day of the『retrial』. My other reason…… I came here to see you, a person who is living together with the white phantom, an Iruniiku. When I heard about it from Makushiimu, I just had to see if the legend was true.」(Oofuia)
Kurando glares and scowls at Makushiimu.
Being glared at, Makuhiimu turns the other way.
「Ah, it does exist. I have longed to see it with my own eyes.」(Oofuia)
With gentle eyes, Oofuia approaches the hostile Kurando and Yukishiro.
She looked upon Yukishiro with an expression that it was unaccustomed to; feeling uneasy against this unknown threat, Yukishiro hid behind Kurando.
Upon seeing the scene, Oofuia made a delighted smile.
Kurando looks at Makushiimu.

「Well,『moon goddess's attendant (Maruuna・Niyuumu)』, something-san, does this mean my role here is done?」(Kurando)
「No, you see……」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu felt uncomfortable and scratched his head.

「It may be impudent of me, but may we set up camp around here?」(Oofuia)
She asks Kurando in place of Makushiimu who being indecisive.
Once again, Kurando glare intensify.
「The『participants for the trial rehearing』have yet to arrive. You see, the retrial for the hero case will be conducted in Sarewado (サレハド) village. The thing is, we are a separate party; we are a group, priestesses. As such, we had to arrive ahead of time to attend the rehearing. In the meantime, we wanted to assess that Akari-san was not in the wrong. Therefore, if I may, for safety reasons, please do not be unreasonable. And well——」(Oofuia)
She stops in mid-sentence. After awhile several female hunters can be seen standing beside Oofuia.
「The women behind me are most definitely hunters; although, they may be skilled they possess a low star rank. But nevertheless, they are women who have escaped and are receiving the goddess's protection.」(Oofuia)
「The goddess's protection? Sorry to say but, I don't know anything about『Maruuna・Niyuumu (moon goddess's attendant)』.」(Kurando)
Oofuia wasn't offended that Kurando didn't know about the goddess.
「There is no need to show such an expression.『Maruuna・Niyuumu (moon goddess's attendant)』was a female deity of the hunt, who lived with the moon goddess. The women under the goddess's protection live a secular lifestyle; they travel the land and live as hunters. Since the moon goddess was said to be a virgin, she was known to dislike men. As such, by the goddess's grace, it became a place for women to run away to.」(Oofuia)
「Ah~ in other words, it is a special place for women to take refugee, correct?」(Kurando)
Kurando's line-of-sight fell upon one of the women and that woman froze with fear.
「For that reason, it would be more convenient for us to stay here than at the village. Of course, we won't leak anything.」(Oofuia)
Kurando resigns. It is useless now as the information had already been leaked.

The only method left for Kurando to conceal his whereabouts would be to annihilate them all. His situation has become hopeless.
「……Makushiimu is a beast and I am a man, will it be alright?」(Kurando)
「Hey now, it isn't like that. I only play around with beautiful older women who are not troubled.」(Makushiimu)
Akari looks at Makushiimu with an icy cold glare.
Oofuia seems puzzled by their exchange.
「Makushiimu isn't a problem; however, you are indeed a grown man. Why didn't I ever considered that you would be an adult.」(Oofuia)
「……whatever.」(Kurando)
For some unknown reason, Oofuia tilts her head.
「……is this everyone?」(Kurando)
Oofuia shook her head no and then turns around.
Behind her, they see 10 or so women ascending the slope.
Kurando looks up towards the sky.
He wanted to become free like the blue sky.

「Chief~, please don't ask for the unreasonable, nya一」(girl A)
「That's right. Why can't we just exterminate all the nightmares~」(girl B)
Oofuia made a frank smile.

「This shouldn't be a problem for you girls, right? Or, should I raise your punishment another level.」(Oofuia)

– ToC –

Chapter 35: The Moon Goddess's Attendant ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３５ー月の女神の付き人①

Chapter 35 – The Moon Goddess's Attendant ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

「……Oofuia-san (オーフィア), are you an elf?」(Kurando)

While ignoring the commotion around him, Kurando asked her a question.

As it is already futile, if he is going down, Kurando rather choose the direction in which he falls.

「Yes, I am. I'm one of the forest people. If you would like, I can call forth the spirit of the forest.」(Oofuia)

「Do you mind giving me an explanation?」(Kurando)

「Eh, for us elves, using spirit magic is intuitive. You see, we have been using spirit magic long before human discovered it.」(Oofuia)

「Then, what about autonomous magic?」(Kurando)

「I know of it. An ordinary elf probably isn't too knowledgeable about such magic, but since I have lived a long life, I had taken an interest in it.」(Oofuia)

「*Hmm.*….. how about you instruct me on autonomous magic after the business with Akari is settled?」(Kurando)

Oofuia placed her hand on her chin; she seems to be pondering something.

「Huh, are you okay with autonomous magic? I could also instruct you on spirit magic and life spirit magic, you know? Anyhow, it will be awhile before the retrial starts.」(Oofuia)

Kurando is bewildered by how easily his request was accepted.

「Well, as long as you don't discriminate, yes. Alright then, I will be teaching you

3 autonomous magic and 3 magic formulas. I'll hold off on spirit magic and life spirit magic, so for now, let us work on raising your ability.」(Oofuia)
「……well, that is good for me, but then there is Yukishiro……」(Kurando)
They look towards Yukishiro who is hiding behind Kurando.
「Will it be okay?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia crouched down so that her line-of-sight matched with Yukishiro's.
As it listened to her request, Yukishiro merely moved its body but didn't take a threatening pose.
At times, it made low growling noises that only Kurando could hear but Oofuia couldn't.
A short while later, Oofuia stood up.
「*Fufufu,* Yukishiro-san is not against the idea. So, may we proceed?」(Oofuia)
Kurando looks toward Yukishiro.
——*Guau* (Yukishiro) *It doesn't seem opposed to the idea and it surprisingly seems to be in a good mood.*
Now that they have received Yukishiro's permission, Kurando has no choice but to nod in agreement.
Annihilate, huh.
If he had wanted to choose that option, Kurando would have already killed Akari.
But, he couldn't bring himself to kill people that are not clearly his enemy.
For now, Kurando is still clean; he hasn't become ruthless. The current him would still be able to live comfortably in modern-day Japan.
Despite Kurando acting coldhearted, from time to time, he had not cast away his compassion.
In other words, he hasn't forgotten that this situation was caused by the results of his actions.
Kurando must see this mess through to the end.
Even if it is illogical, he has to continue onwards.
And thus, Kurando decided to make the best of his situation.

And thus, the large group of『Maruuna・Niyuumu (月の女神の付き人, マルゥナ・ニュゥム, moon goddess's attendant)』followers set up camp in the vicinity of Kurando's cave.
The tent is quickly being setup.

A variety of women can be seen moving about.
From among them; Kurando sees those from the beast race, giant race, little people, and other races he didn't know of.
「*Do you find this to be an unusual sight?*」*(Oofuia)*
Kurando takes a sit on the stone beside Oofuia.
「*Somewhat. I'm only used to seeing the race of people common to Sarewado village. The village does have a number of people from different races, though.*」*(Kurando)*
「*Well, that is probably because Sarewado is located on the frontier, in the western part of the continent, and not many other races venture to such rural areas.*」*(Oofuia)*
「*……what about discrimination?*」*(Kurando)*
「*Discrimination can be found all anywhere as it depends on the individual.*」*(Oofuia)*
「*What about for elves?*」*(Kurando)*
The only things Kurando knows about elves are what he has learned about them from fantasy stories.
Oofuia made a wry smile.
「*Well, rather than facing discrimination, elves are quite xenophobic. The majority of elves, they don't meddle with other race. Since olden times, the elves had never been persecuted. You see, elves have never been interested in living anywhere else aside from the forest they have always resided in. Well, some oddballs among the elves of old would leave the forest; although, they are in the minority.*」*(Oofuia)*
*(T/N: it mentions, "エルフトウン・エルフ (erufutoun・erufu, *elf town・elf, elf on・elf)"; don't know what it means, probably not important)*
Kurando nods in acknowledgment.
In the crowd of women, a short distance away from where Oofuia and Kurando are chatting, something slowly approaches Yukishiro who is laying on the ground beside Kurando's feet.
Although Yukishiro has its eyes closed, it noticed the person's rude behavior.
The cat tribe beastman tried to pounce on Yukishiro.
However, Yukishiro prevented the assault on its tail.
「*S-sad, nyaa*」*(Maanya)*

The cat tribe beastman hangs her head in disappointment.
「Maanya (マーニャ), what is it this time?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia has a troubled expression as she looked at the cat tribe beastman, Maanya.
She has messy brown hair and pointy dark-brown cat ears. Her eyes are sharp and her canine fangs are protruding from her mouth. Maanya has the appearance of a slender and cheerful girl.
「Yukishiro-san, sorry. As you can see, this child is a cat tribe beastman and she is just brimming with curiosity. Maanya, go introduce yourself.」(Oofuia)
After being reprimanded by Oofuia, Maanya got up.
「Maanya, nya」(Maanya)
「That is Yukishiro, I'm Kurando.」(Kurando)
「I wish to touch that Iruniiku (イルニーク), nya」(Maanya)
「You have to ask Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
After Kurando informed her, Maanya when over to Yukishiro and crouched down to talk to it.
Oofuia and Kurando watched over them and listened to their conversation.
「……when did it become normal to talk with Yukishiro? Is such a thing unusual?」(Kurando)
After having met the parent magical beast, Kurando ended up raising Yukishiro. Yukishiro was the one who taught him that it is possible for man and beast to understand one another. However, normal people do not try to understand magical beast; as hunters, they hunt them. But of course, in such a case as this, those who are able to reach a mutual understanding with a magical beast are definitely in the minority.
Oofuia made a faint and wryly smile.
「If it was me, as an elf, I would show them the same respect I would give flowers and trees. Being able to understand a magical beast is different from knowing how to hunting them. Think of it as coexisting with them. Besides,『Maruuna・Niyuumu』wasn't perfect. She had to put forth effort.」(Oofuia)
The women who had finished setting up the tent turned to look at Oofuia.
Kurando couldn't help but think, the group of women felt afraid of Yukishiro. He sees the small rat tribe beastman and the large ox tribe beastman trying to hide their trembling body.

「Hey, can you hear me? I thought they all received training at the association.」(Kurando)
Kurando shouts to the direction where Makushiimu and Akari are located.
「Well, it just happens that, the training offered on the frontier is more Spartan than that of the other associations.」(Akari)
Kurando and Makushiimu are quite similar to each other.
「What, are you still angry. Uptight bastard.」(Makushiimu)
「——Makushiimu-san」(Akari)
「——no matter how much time past, you're still quite insensitive.」(Oofuia)
After the two scolded him, Makushiimu scratched his head and then said something.
「Well, sorry for everything. No matter how much time pass, I'm no match for you, Oofuia-baasan.」(Makushiimu)
(T/N: "baasan" means, grandmother)
Kurando lets out a single sigh.
「Whatever.」(Kurando)
「So, Oofuia, what is your group's relation to the hunter association?」(Kurando)
Kurando directs a question to Oofuia.
For some reason, Akari who is sitting across from them became unusually excited.
「Aside from the parliament and the central government,『Maruuna・Niyuumu』has retained its influence with the hunter association. You see, we can advise hunters to travel to places or countries where they are needed. Our authority has nothing to do with politics nor does its power vary from country to country. This is possible because the followers of Maruuna・Niyuumu has a long history with the hunter association. When the association was first established, during the chaos and confusion that arisen, we provided them with support. But even before that, we are an organization that has had ties with them since they were the adventurer guild. You could say, that even if they throw a tantrum, we could advise hunters to not travel to their country.」(Oofuia)
「This isn't an exaggeration, you know.」(Akari)
Oofuia made a bright smile.
However,『Maruuna・Niyuumu』authority to give jugdement・discipline is not a written law or rule. Their power comes from hunters, who reside in their

respective country, that follow Maruuna・Niyuumu's opinion and there is nothing the association can do about it. But, Maruuna・Niyuumu does hold some influence with the government of each country.
「You see, Oofuia-san, the current top chief of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』for no less than the last 200 years, is known to be the most influence of all her predecessors. During the beginning of Eripusu (エリプス) first world war, when each country had been neglecting their borders, there was a disaster caused by magical beast in a village on the remote frontier; Oofuia had resolved this problem and later became hailed as a saint.」(Akari)
Akari is unusually fascinated with the conversation.
「You see, Akari is a big fan of Oofuia. She had been quite excited for a while now.」(Makushiimu)
Akari turned red after Makushiimu pointed it out.
「Oh-ho, you are a fan of an obaa-chan such as myself, that surely does make me happy.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia showed a pleasant smile and looks towards Kurando.
「By the way, is there is any problem you're having with the hunter association in Sarewado village?」(Oofuia)

Then and suddenly, when Kurando had thought everything was resolved, he was reminded of reality.
Kurando never thought that he would be able to repay the branch chief and Zauru (ザウル) for his mistreatment.
He could kill them, but one mistake would put his own life in danger.
It is possible for Kurando to get Zauru and the branch chief prosecuted with Akari's help as she might be proof enough of their wrongdoing.
Kurando was unable to come up with any other countermeasures; therefore, without an escape plan, he didn't want to go on the offense.
Furthermore, now that Makushiimu has returned, it won't be long before Kurando doesn't have to shelter Akari. When it all comes to an end, Kurando doesn't have to continue being a hunter at Sarewado village (サレハド).
Kurando thought about everything for a good while.
However, a surprising opportunity appeared.
And thus, Kurando informed Oofuia about the things that had happened after Makushiimu left. He told her about the pestering branch chief, that staff

member, the situation pertaining to Zauru, and how he had to just put up with everything.

Kurando explained their arbitrary interpretation of the association's rules.
He told them of their blatant misuse of the rules.
And how they had abused the use of the obligation request policy.
As Oofuia listened to Kurando's story, the elderly woman didn't show her usual sweet smile; instead, she showed the stern expression of a chief.
「*I see. It is not that I don't believe you, but do you have any evidence? I won't be able to do much without any proof as they could simply make up any old excuse.*」*(Oofuia)*
Kurando stands up and heads toward the cave.
He returned from the cave and handed Oofuia a bundle of papers.
「*This is…… oh I see. Ah, so you were aware of it. I'm surprised, not many people ask for a written copy of their transaction.*」*(Oofuia)*
She received the bundle of papers and began to read over them.
「*……well, there is quite a bit here,*」*(Oofuia)*
Although the conditions were strict, it wasn't as ironclad as his employee contract while he was working in Japan.
After she looked over the papers, Oofuia stood up.
「*Diantia (ディアンティア), Arii (アリー), come over here.*」*(Oofuia)*
The two women who are clothed in a dark green robe and leather armor rushed over as soon as they were called. They are hunters who had fought an Atorabashiku (大棘地蜘蛛, アトラバシク, giant thorny spider) on their journey up the mountain.
「*These two women are my assistances. She is Diantia of the crystal tribe (水晶系地人), the other is Arii of the white tribe (白系人種). Diantia, Arii, this here is Kurando-san.*」*(Oofuia)*
Diantia is about Kurando's height. Her red crystal, rose quartz in color, mannequin-like face is easy to read. Although, unlike a normal person's facial features; her eyes, nose, and mouth are faintly visible; but nevertheless, she is a mysterious beauty.
Arii, who is from the white tribe, a tribe that is present in Sarewado; she is a feminine girl, small in stature with blond hair and blue eyes. (T/N: yeah, umm, no way for me to not make these sentence sound strange)

After Oofuia introduced them, everyone gave a brief greeting before they got down to business.
「*Please, have a look at this.*」*(Oofuia)*
The two looked over the bundle of papers Oofuia had handed them.
「*I will be blunt, the staff member is suspicious.*」*(Diantia)*
Diantia's voice gives off a pleasant sound, like that of the ringing of a wine glass.
「*Well, for now, let us just go over everything~*」*(Arii)*
Arii responded with a carefree attitude.
「*Yes, that is right. We need to confirm the details. Kurando-san, can you lend me your tag?*」*(Oofuia)*
After receiving his tag, Oofuia excused herself and then from her robe, she reveals a necklace.
She placed a ring against the tag and then begins to recite an incantation.

≪Ssannið að mínu fyrir ssporin rista eins ssönnun á、trausti og ssannleika≫
≪ *Reveal to me the true truth that has been transcribed here.* ≫

Maryoku starts to flow as she activated some sort of autonomous magic. However, nothing special happened.
「*……umm, the only thing recorded here is a Torabokku (トラボック) hunt request.*」*(Oofuia)*
Oofuia was astounded and showed a blank expression.
In a low voice, Diantia gave him an explanation.
「*That was a tool and autonomous magic used by the association to read tags.*」*(Diantia)*
Diantia's voice caused a pleasurable feeling in Kurando's ears; he wanted to hear her voice once more.
「*Sorry, I didn't catch that.*」*(Kurando)*
He pretends he didn't hear her.
「*Like I was saying, the tool and autonomous magic are used by the association to read tags. By using the magic, one can recall the requests that the association has recorded on the tag.*」*(Diantia)*
Her voice is like a wind chime, but more tender.
「*Sorry, but can you repea——*」*(Kurando)*

Akari delivers a physical punishment to Janitor-san by kneeing him in the back.
Kurando apologies to Diantia for his mischief by giving her a slight bow.
Diantia is puzzled by his sudden bow and she turns her head. Arii who saw this merely giggled.

「Aside from the first Torabokku hunt request, there is no other request recorded.」(Oofuia)
Having calmed down, Kurando inquired more about what was said.
「……are there any records that mention Iraida?」(Kurando)
「Huh, Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン) is here?」(Oofuia)
「I have been in her care. You see, we have been working together.」(Kurando)
「No such information is recorded here. But if it is that Iraida・Baagin, she would be a valuable witness.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia, Diantia, and Arii nod in agreement.
Oofuia changed her posture and then looks to Kurando.
「We won't be able to take action right away. You see, before we can act, the personal and other necessary arrangements need to be made. But,」(Oofuia)
She continues.
「Those who commit blaspheme against the goddess of the hunt will surely be punished. ——anyone foolish enough to touch the goddess's breast will be frozen by her icy breath and then smashed to pieces.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia ends her speech with a smile.
At that moment, everyone present felt a chill run down their spine.

In that tense atmosphere, only one didn't notice the situation, a lone animal. All this time, Maanya has been trying to communicate with Yukishiro. As for the results, for some reason, she was able to toy with Yukihiro's tail. Although after she had her fill, Maanya lain exhausted on the ground.

「Nyaa, I'll see you tomorrow.」(Maanya)
The curious Maanya still had not yet given up on pestering Yukishiro.

– ToC –

Chapter 36: The Moon Goddess's Attendant ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３６ー月の女神の付き人②
Chapter 36 – The Moon Goddess's Attendant ②

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

For some reason, Kurando thought the room seemed wider than before.
As Yukishiro and Kurando sat around the fire, it felt as if something was missing from the opposite side of the fireplace.

Akari had chosen to camp outside with Oofuia (オーフィア) and her group.
Makushiimu (マクシーム) had taken several people with him and headed down the mountain to the village.
Over his shoulder, Makushiimu carried the Atorabashiku (アトラバシク) that the girl's of『Maruuna・Niyuumu (マルゥナ・ニュゥム)』had subjugated. They had 24 hours to pass through the Atorabashiku territory.
Makushiimu sighed as there wasn't time to take a smoke break; although, Kurando thought it was a good thing that they were putting Makushiimu to work.

As Kurando leaned his back against Yukishiro, he suddenly noticed his loneliness.
He is overcome with feelings of loneliness.
However, these feelings are proof of his freedom.
This is the freedom that he himself had chosen.

While a part of him wished for it, another part of him longed for company.
And as expected, he was unable to let those feelings go.

Kurando couldn’t bring himself to say that the time he had spent with Akari, Iraida (イライダ), and most of all Yukishiro weren’t enjoyable. He just couldn’t.

Yukishiro brushes its tail against Kurando’s cheek.
Kurando made a broad smile and then silently moved his hand to lightly scratch Yukishiro’s throat.

◆◆◆

「Kurando-san are you awake?」(Akari)
Upon hearing Akari’s voice, Kurando slowly opens his eyes.
Yukishiro who Kurando is lending against, it pretended to be asleep.
Kurando confirmed that is it Akari. She is sitting with her knees to the floor. (T/N: seiza)
He sees Akari’s face being illuminated by the evening light in the background.
「Did you need something?」(Kurando)
「……well, I wanted to apologize for all that has happened.」(Akari)
In silence, Akari bowed.
For some reason, Kurando thought Akari appeared smaller than usual.
She was alway small and she always had seemed delicate.
Akari is still about 17 years old. Kurando himself is about 10 years older than her.
When they were summoned here, she was maybe 15 or 16 years old.
Although she is a child, in this moment, she left a strong impression on Kurando.
「What do you mean?」(Kurando)
Akari raised her head.
「You have provided me with shelter. And, you had to put up with being mistreated by the villagers. Not to mention, for my sake, Makushiimu had broken his promise. Kurando-san, Yukishiro-san, I have brought trouble to your everyday life, and so much more……」(Akari)
Even now, Akari is determined not to cry.
「Well, it couldn’t be helped. From Makushiimu’s perspective, I’m just some random guy who had appeared. If he had to choose between me or you, Makushiimu would definitely pick you, Akari.」(Kurando)
There is a chance that Makushiimu had noticed the connection between Kurando and Akari. Although, surely, he isn’t aware of the fact that another hero stole Kurando’s ability.

About that, mostly likely, Makushiimu only told Oofuia that Kurando is an abandon child who has been living alongside an Iruniiku (イルニーク). If it is just that then there is nothing to worry about.
「Ah, but……」(Akari)
「……let us leave it at that. Perhaps it was the only way to save you, Akari. Well, it did bring me trouble, but it is not like I don't have a way out. Anyways, did Makushiimu mention anything about me being a summoned person?」(Kurando)
「He didn't appear to have mentioned it. Makushiimu had probably guessed it, but he didn't appear to have said anything to Oofuia-san.」(Akari)
Deep down, Kurando felt relieved.
The fact that Kurando is a summoned person is something that should not be leaked.
It is Kurando's final lifeline. Who knows what sort of turmoil it would cause in the country if the people of this world came to learn that Kurando is a summoned person who had his ability stolen.
It isn't that they want Kurando's ability, but they would use the incident as an excuse to hold contempt against Hayato and the other summoned heroes.
Not to mention, what would happen if the other summoned people became aware of Kurando's existence?
Either way, Kurando is the most likely to end up shouldering the burden.
Akari looks to Kurando, but to where should her apology be directed?
Kurando speaks up.
「Then, I won't say to not worry about it. Let it be a promise that you take with you to the grave, ——guard it with your life.」(Kurando)
Kurando couldn't tell Akari that it is okay for her to take her own life.
It is not like Akari would wish for such a thing.
To Kurando, Akari would always show an expression that reflected the guilt that she felt. Most likely, she is the type of person that has a strong sense of responsibility.
「Besides, there is nothing wrong with being happy. At least, I'm trying to be.」(Kurando)
She wiped the tears from her eyes and then made a determined expression.
「Yes. No matter what happens, I'll keep my promise.」(Akari)
The young girl seemed to have made her decision and had determined the path

that she will be walking.
Kurando found the scene to be extremely radiant.

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「……this may be sudden but, do you mind lending out the bath to everyone?」(Akari)
「……」(Kurando)
「*Umm*, while they do have some rations, how about dinner? You see, everyone is worn out after their long trip and Makushiimu won't be returning with food until tomorrow. So, how about a warm meal……」(Akari)
「……」(Kurando)

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The sun had completely set. Outside the cave, the Earth and the yellow moon shone quietly in the night sky.
Not too long ago, it was noisy on the mountain as they were coming and going from the bath to having their evening meal. But now, it is quiet.
While he stands by the edge of the cliff behind the cave, Kurando is drawing a picture of the moon.
Yukishiro laid across from him.

But suddenly, Yukishiro's ears showed a subtle twitch.
「Do you mind if I keep you company?」(Oofuia)
From behind Kurando, a person who is wearing a dark green robe appeared; it is Oofuia.
He gave a slight nod but doesn't stop moving his hand and continued to draw.
「Is that suppose to be…… the moon goddess Maruuna?」(Oofuia)
In this world, the yellow moon in the sky looks similar to the moon in Japan.
Being overcome with feelings of nostalgia, Kurando continued to move his hand.
With his thin brush, on the leaf paper, Kurando lightly used the ink to draw a picture of a woman and the moon.
The woman in the picture is looking towards the fleeting moon that in the distance.
It is a detailed drawing and yet an abstract picture.
「Light and dark…… it sure is a mysterious picture.」(Oofuia)
It is not that she is praising it, but rather the picture itself doesn't have a clear

meaning.
Oofuia turned her head horizontally.
「I am aware that we are uninvited guests. I must thank you for being understanding.」(Oofuia)
The current situation cannot be helped; therefore, Kurando couldn't get angry even if he tried.
Because there are things he himself is unsure of.
「Well, that is just how things are; it's just like Makushiimu's betrayal.」(Kurando)
「But, that was my fault.」(Oofuia)
「It still doesn't change what happened.」(Kurando)
Kurando spoke with a rough tone, but it doesn't necessarily mean he is angry.
「……fact can vary from reality.」(Oofuia)
「Maybe so. However, reality can't be undone or are you saying otherwise? If so, then who decides how the truth effects reality?」(Kurando)
「Certainly, that child is rude and doesn't think before acting. But more importantly, it is regrettable that you have been living isolated on this mountain. Such feelings——」(Oofuia)
「——it is to the point where I could kill someone, correct?」(Kurando)
For the first time, Oofuia slightly trembled.
Kurando continued to move his brush and his emotions could clearly be felt.
If Makushiimu had never met Akari, then chances are, he would not have gained Kurando hatred. If only they had not met one another.
Those who are not associated with the heroes or Kurando would probably think Makushiimu is a good guy.
However, Makushiimu's good intentions were something Kurando didn't wish for.
As that isn't the case, Kurando continued to move his hand.

While Oofuia looked to Kurando from the side, she began to think.
For a person who has been abandoned on a mountain, he is affluent in language and is able to draw pictures; he shows a certain level of culture and education.
Could he be royalty or nobility that had escaped from some internal dispute; or, is he a high-class runaway slave?
In the major powers on Eripusu (エリプス), slavery has been abolished. However,

slavery still remains in small and poor countries.
But, when she thought about, Oofuia found that the pieces didn't quite fit together.

「Then, how long do you plan on hiding away from rest of the world?」(Oofuia)
For the first time, Kurando lifted his head to pet the purring Yukishiro.
「Are things really fine as they are?」(Oofuia)
If Kurando wants to stay with Yukishiro, then he has no choice but to stay on the mountain.
Oofuia understood this. It could be said that that was the reason why she came here.
Kurando suddenly remembered. He looked to Oofuia.
「Ah, that's right. While it was a verbal agreement, it was a life and death matter and that bastard Makushiimu, at his own convenient, he had broken his promise to not tell anyone about me or Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
As he said this, Kurando realized why he was so troubled.
Kurando was concerned about what would happen after the promise was broken.
Someone who would break such a promise is without a question an enemy that Kurando would want to kill.
That would be the expected result.
But the thing is, one reason kept Kurando from trying to kill Makushiimu.
Despite Makushiimu breaking his promise, the person does not act hostile towards Kurando; therefore, Makushiimu is not clearly his enemy.

「……alright then, let us make a promise. I, Oofuia・oru・vuerude・va・kuuufuorunia・eruioaru (オーフィア・オル・ヴェルデ・ヴァ・クゥウフォルニア・エルィオァル) of the blue forest tribe, swear on the name of the moon goddess to protect my promise for the rest of my days.」(Oofuia)

Oofuia closed her eyes and then recited something.

≪ *DDetta liv är Tsukiyo oavsett vad, att de inte bryter eden. Vem hans oavsett hur fiende dock är denna kropp huggen, även kommer att bli smutsig, min orubbliga löfte.* ≫
<>

It was an elven vow.

「Will this be alright?」(Oofuia)
Kurando doesn't know what was said, but he had a feeling that she would keep her word.
And thus, Oofuia showed the same expression that Akari had previously shown.
「I don't quite understand, but it's good that you are willing to keep your promise.」(Kurando)
「I never thought that I would end up saying such things in my lifetime.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia made an off-handed chuckle.
「You see, such words, they are occasionally used with marriage vows. *Fufufu*.」(Oofuia)
Kurando made a blank expression.
「Well, my face isn't as youthful as it used to be. Please, do not stare so much at my wrinkly brow. Anyhow, this is my apology. I was the one who made a request to Makushiimu. So, please accept this as a token of my apology.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia presented Kurando with a ring the same color as her dark green robe.
Kurando showed no interest in the ring and waved his hand.
「This is proof of being a member of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』. There is also one for Yukishiro.」(Oofuia)
Like a drop of morning dew, the dark green rings are placed on Kurando's palm.
「*Fufu*, if you have that, there won't be a problem with having a large magical beast such as Yukishiro accompanying you around town. Anyone who objects would be making themselves the enemy of『Maruuna・Niyuumu 』and the hunter association. *Fufufu*.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia laughs and shows an expression of an experienced chief.
「However, don't go strutting around the streets of Dorugan (ドルガン) as Iruniiku is quite famous around these parts. Although, just in case, I will teach you an autonomous illusion magic. This isn't a deal but rather an apology, okay.」(Oofuia)
「……why, are you doing this?」(Kurando)
At last, Kurando voiced his opinion. He is doubtful and wonders why she would go this far for him.
Oofuia spoke.

「As the moon goes round, we continue our journey.
As the attendant of the goddess of the hunt, we hunt.

All the while, we take along with us women who are troubled.
Although it may not be welcome, nevertheless, we wish to protect them.
You see, because Diantia (ディアンティア) has the appearance of a monster, even now, she faces discrimination. As a result, Diantia has suffered from all sorts of cruel treatment.
As for Arii (アリー), her husband was a violent man who beat her. You see, she was from a country where divorces are prohibited.
If you think about it, despite it all, people must continue to live from day to day.
Men, they too suffer from such things.
For example; they can suffer from discrimination, slavery & exploitation, fighting & war, and having to kill one another.
You also give off that sort of feeling. Do you too not suffer from something?
You see, that is why I came here.」(Oofuia)

Her words were mesmerizing and her speech was captivating.
「Well, sorry for intruding.」(Oofuia)
After she gave her parting words, Oofuia left.
As Kurando grasp the dark green ring, he continued to draw.

He thought to himself.
Kurando pondered about what he wanted to do.

In this world, he can already survive.
The question is, what will he do afterwards.

Kurando fiddles with the dark green ring in his palm.

– ToC –

Chapter 37: The Moon Goddess's Attendant ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

37ー月の女神の付き人③
Chapter 37 – The Moon Goddess's Attendant ③

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The next morning, when the sun had risen, Oofuia (オーフィア) made good on her promise and instructed Kurando on magic.

Having stayed up late last night, the drowsy Kurando listened to Oofuia's lecture on magic. He puts away his meal and took out the magic textbook. When Oofuia saw the textbook, she wished to see the book.

Kurando handed the book to Oofuia. While being overcome with nostalgia, she gently brushed the book's cover.
「This is one of the first editions. You see, only a few of them still exist.」(Oofuia)
He shook off his drowsiness and asked Oofuia a question.
「Why was a revision issued right after the first release. I'm assuming it wasn't because of a second edition or an error correction.」(Kurando)
Kurando is speaking in the same tone as he did last night.
Oofuia seems to be showing an unusual bashful expression.
「……about 150 years ago, a certain academy had commissioned the creation of this textbook. You see, in those days, I was quite popular and I might have over done it. *Cough*, because of that the author from the first edition was removed from the revised edition…… oh how embarrassing.」(Oofuia)
「Was that not overkill?」(Kurando)
「Let us see now, basic autonomous magic theory and basic theory for tool use in magic, the original spirit magic theory, life spirit magic and how it correlates to

the body, augmented training for magic users, and other such techniques & theories that weren't known in those days. You see, immediately following the end of the world war, the royals and aristocrats who had been concealing magic, they feared that the elves would protest and thus the production of the revised edition was halted. Of the few books that were produced, fortunately, because of the book's complex content it wasn't banned. Anyhow, as of now, most of them are probably buried somewhere in some country's storehouse…… oh, to be blinded by the folly of youth.」(Oofuia)
「Youth, huh……」(Kurando)
「Ah, it is not nice to compare a women's age….. well, on that note, an elf has a lifespan of about 500 years. Please, keep that in mind. By the way, I'm 450 years old. Well, I'm completely an obaa-chan.」(Oofuia)
After she said this, Oofuia stared at the cover of the textbook.
On Eripusu (エリプス): a human's lifespan at most is 150 years, an elf's lifespan is 500 years, a beastmen's lifespan ranges from 80~160 years, a giantkind's lifespan is 160 years and as for an earthling their lifespan & existence is unknown.
「The second edition was released under the title, *Eripusu Magic Reference, Magi・Corpus* (魔法教書, マギ・コルペス)…… it sure has been quite a long time since I have seen the title, *Eripusu Magic Encyclopedia, Magi・Corpus* (魔法大全). Hmm, from the look of things, have you been…… while I am interested in your origins, anyways, have you been studying with this?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia understood that Kurando's intellect is on par with the aristocrats and nobility of this world. To be able to learn magic from this book, one needs the intellect to comprehend its contents.
However, Oofuia stopped herself from asking about his birthplace.
As this young man is living on a mountain, Oofuia thought that in itself was questionable enough.
「Now then, do you understand the basic architecture of autonomous magic, activation and maintaining the flow of maryoku?」(Oofuia)
「Yes, it was more or less written in the textbook. While I have the time to practice, I had to give up because I don't have the tools that are needed to use the magic.」(Kurando)
The chances that someone would be able to learn magic just by studying a single

book that was thrown away on the mountain is low.
Oofuia was astonished by the conversation; they continued to talk.
「So, do you know any original magic?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia wanted to talk more with Kurando, a person who had secluded himself on a mountain and someone who was able to obtain an original copy.
Even if one knows the basic theory of autonomous magic that doesn't mean they will be able to reproduce original magic. The Eripusu magic encyclopedia merely consists of simple elements, characteristics, and basic information that is open to the public; it does explain any further than the fundamentals.
For new magic theories to be discovered, it requires numerous trials & errors and『luck』.
『To be able to deceive the world』, it is simple in idea but is not an easy feat to achieve.
「Well, I do know an original magic called,『maryoku arrow』.」(Kurando)
Having heard this, Oofuia didn't find it surprising nor impossible.
「……did you also learn that from the book?」(Oofuia)
「No, this was something a former noble had taught me.」(Kurando)
The original magic that Kurando knows, it is the one he had received from the transaction with Baron Potapenko (ポタペンコ男爵).
「Hmm, maryoku arrow, it is not a magic a hunter can easily use. My, how expected of an aristocrat.」(Oofuia)
Kurando showed a wry smile that held various others meanings.
「No, that isn't the case.」(Kurando)
To activate『maryoku arrow』, it requires that the user uses a medium・then recite an incantation before it will shoot the magic towards its target.
However, at best one would only be able to fire off a single shot.
Because the magic is practically useless, the association simply sells an all-purpose alternative tool in place of the magic,『maryoku arrow』. The quality of the replacement might be inferior, though.
「Is that so, my, that sure is a unique way of viewing it.」(Oofuia)
Certainly, a magic tool is different from the original.
As the generic arrow had been modified so that anyone could use it, it is slightly bigger than an average arrow.
The characteristic of the generic arrows, as an effect of autonomous magic,

unlike a normal maryoku arrow, it doesn't stop being a maryoku arrow even after maryoku has stopped being supplied.
「Well, for hunters, it just means they simply need to bring more arrows.」 (Kurando)
Anyways, even if the medium is excluded, it wouldn't change the fact that material and time & labor are still necessary. The medium for『maryoku arrow』are sticks; in place of those materials, Kurando uses the sharpened bones of the prey that the parent magical beast had hunted.
「Well, at any rate, you already know an original magic. I'm going to assume that you know how a magic formula works. Now then, I will be teaching you the 「illusion」 magic formal. So, what will be the other 3 you would want to learn?」 (Oofuia)
Kurando placed his hand on his chin and began to ponder which other 3 magic formulas he wanted to learn.

「……of course, I won't teach you『explosion』as such a magic is much too dangerous for you. Usually, showy guys like to learn those dangerous types of magic——」 (Oofuia)
「——」 (Kurando)
「……would you not rather have something more practical. How about『barrier』, or perhaps『magic poison』, or maybe『maryoku release』? In case you didn't know, for『barrier』to be effective, all members need to be in the magic square.」 (Oofuia)
Kurando slight hesitated before agreeing with a nod.
Oofuia let out an unusually big sigh, showing her old age.
「Please, promise me that after I teach you this, that you won't abuse it. And, please don't teach anyone else either. As I had sworn it to you, yesterday, I ask that you please do the same and keep your word as well.」 (Oofuia)
After saying this, Oofuia presented her pinky finger to Kurando.
「This is something I heard from Akari-san; when two people make a pinky promise, the person who breaks the promise must swallow 1000 needles. And, the song says, whoever breaks their promise must seek forgiveness in death.」 (Oofuia)
As Kurando pinky promised with Oofuia, he wondered why Akari would teach Oofuia such a thing.

If the other party makes a request, it is up to oneself to respond to the request. And thus, a thin pale little finger and a rough little finger intertwine.

≪指切りげんまん嘘ついたら、針千本の～ます、死んだら御免、指切った≫
<<< *Pinky promise, I won't lie, 1000 needles~ forgive me if I die, I pinky swear*>>>
(T/N: might have butchered it)

Oofuia recited a song from a foreign language before releasing her finger. She smiled and laughed. And thus, Oofuia begins to teach Kurando magic.

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Since the Atorabashiku (アトラバシク, giant thorny spider) was removed, the area was temporarily cleared, the time it took to transverse the mountain was shortened.
Yesterday, Makushiimu and his group had left some time before noon; the next day, they were able to return in the evening.
As vapors steamed from Makushiimu's naked and bare upper body, he returned carrying the luggage from the village. This time, Makushiimu didn't bring back another subjugated Atorabashiku strapped to his back.
Makushiimu, Diantia (ディアンティア), and the other women carried the luggage over to the cave where Oofuia and Kurando were waiting.
「……so where is your plaything?」(Kurando)
「……leave me alone.」(Makushiimu)
「Well, you do have a reputation for playing around that even I find it surprising. Anyhow, an elf would not behave in such a manner. Why not try to act more properly.」(Oofuia)
Kurando had finished being instructed on autonomous magic and had moved onto practicing spirit magic with Oofuia.
From his head, Kurando is made to rotate a ball of water while producing a sword of ice from his left and a tiny tornado from his right as a flame is made to dance from his right toe and crackling lightning from his other foot; all the while, light spirits run along his back as on the opposite side, atop his chest, a small shadow is made to dance. As this all happened, on the ground beneath Kurando, there is a large fluctuating shadow being projected.

「Crave it into your memory and stop relying on touch. With spirit magic, the user must transmit their『intent』to the spirits. Physical contact is not

necessary, become a person who does not rely on touch nor sight.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia says this with a cheerful smile.

In the background, Makushiimu muttered something as he unloaded luggage.
「I have heard, Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン) has been looking after you.」(Makushiimu)
As he said this, Makushiimu placed a dark gray leather armor nearby Kurando.
However, Kurando doesn't understand what this is about.
「Now now, this leather armor was made from that Barobashishiri (巻角大蜥蜴, バロバシシリ, large horned-monitor lizard) hide. Iraida was the one who asked me to bring it to you.」(Makushiimu)
Kurando recalled that prior event.
At some point, Iraida must have had it completed.
「……what about the fee?」(Kurando)
「About that, I paid for it. Well, I did break my promise, so it is the least I can do.」(Makushiimu)
Upon closer examination, Kurando sees that there are gloves similar in color to the Barobashishiri skin beside the leather armor.
「These are traditional giantkind gloves.」(Makushiimu)
「……gloves?」(Kurando)
「Well, this is something you don't see every day?」(Oofuia)
After saying so, Oofuia looked intently at the gloves.
「It appears to have been made from exceptional metals and exceptional hide of a magical beast. Although to simply put it, they are just iron gloves.」(Oofuia)
As she told them this, Oofuia was amazed by Makushiimu's attempt to reconcile with Kurando.
「You should know better, this isn't something that can be resolved with a lukewarm gesture. Anyhow, those from the other races refer to this as『the giant's glove』. When maryoku is directed into the glove, although it becomes as hard as iron, the user can freely move their fingers. These gloves can be used by even giants that are unskilled with the use of maryoku. Nevertheless, while they may be useful, they aren't available in shops.」(Oofuia)
「Well, I had taken a moment to run to my hometown.」(Makushiimu)
「You raced there…… my, some things don't change.」(Oofuia)
Makushiimu looked at Kurando's arm.

「Your forearms are abnormally tempered for someone of your race, that's good. Not many people do strength training these days. Most people would simply use this as a sturdy gauntlet but you are different, right?」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu moved his line-of-sight from Kurando's developed forearms to Kurando's hardened fingers.
「Who knows.」(Kurando)
Having completed his business, Makushiimu left.
「Does it bother you? You see, those of the giant race are quite mindful of others. Please, is there no way for you to forgive him.」(Oofuia)
While he maintained his spirit magic training, Kurando grumbled to himself.
「I'll forgive him if I don't end up dying on this mountain. If not, I won't be satisfied unless he pays with his life.」(Kurando)
After having said this, Kurando fainted.

The following morning after Kurando had lost consciousness.
Yukishiro repeatedly pats Kurando's face with its paw.
Kurando, who was awoken, tried to go back to sleep.
However, more force was applied to the paw.
The sound of Yukishiro repeatedly stomping on Kurando's face can be heard.
「*Guh*」(Kurando)
From his sleeping position, Kurando was unable to physically see Yukishiro's angry expression, but he sure felt it.
Kurando took a face full.
He doesn't get up and merely wiggles his arms and legs.
The irritated Yukishiro held Kurando in its mouth and then carried him.
Yukishiro tosses Kurando outside.
Outside, he can smell the scent of greenery, soil and feels the cool chilly morning breeze of the sunless sky. Kurando opened his eyes.

After having been fully awoken by Yukishiro, he prepared his hunting equipment and exited the cave. As Kurando walked, while he was examing his small shield, Oofuia greeted him.
「Where did you get that small shield? It seems to have been purified by spirits.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia spoke with the stern tone of a chief.
Kurando told her that it was an item dropped by an ice warrior monster that he

had defeated.
Having heard his story, Oofuia looked down and began to ponder something.
After coming to this mountain, they didn't see any monsters. Although if one did appear, since it is in the mountains, in this season, it would probably be an ice type.
If so, will there be an outbreak while the snow is thawing?
90 days had passed since the sighting; Oofuia wondered if she was overthinking it?
Now that she thought about it, yet another crime has been added to the branch chief's list.
By the association's rules, any and all monster sighting reports must be investigated.
The branch chief had neglected his duty.

As if nothing was wrong, Oofuia raised her head and informed Kurando the details about the small shield.
「You see, that small shield is an ice shield. It has the ability to reduce ice damage by using maryoku to accumulate ice spirits around the shield.」(Oofuia)
「Eh, then what about Akari's club?」(Kurando)
「Well, about that club, for now, let us put off on informing Akari-san about it.」(Oofuia)
「Umm, are you able to see the ice spirits?」(Kurando)
Oofuia thought that was impossible and laughed.
「As an elf, I can somewhat feel their presence.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia excused herself and turned to face the slope as the other girls were waiting for her.
Before she had turned around, Yukishiro's eyes were urging her to hurry up.

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When Kurando and Yukishiro had returned from their hunting trip, Makushiimu had also returned and was speaking with Oofuia about something.
Kurando had no other business to take care of so he made his way to the cave and continued the training Oofuia had tasked him with yesterday.

He fainted once again. The next day.
Oofuia leaves for the village.

Although the trial party has yet arrived, she has other preparations to complete.
Diantia and the other 9 members stayed to guard Akari, while Makushiimu had escorted Oofuia down the mountain.
Arii (アリー) and the other women that had descended down the mountain never returned.
When Oofuia was departing, she showed her usual smile.

「Fool, you're misunderstanding your position; let me show you hell.」(Oofuia)

She spoke with the rigid tone of a chief.

– ToC –

Chapter 38: Branch Chief

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３８ー支部長

Chapter 38 – Branch Chief

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

With Iraida (イライダ) and Makushiimu (マクシーム) guarding them from behind, Oofuia (オーフィア) and Arii (アリー) are standing in the branch association's lobby.
The other 9 members of『Maruuna・Niyuumu (月の女神の付き人, moon goddess's attendant)』are standing by at key entranceways in the association's building.
As she showed the stern expression of a chief, Oofuia made her way to the reception desk.
The branch chief, who realized the hopeless situation, slowly swallowed his saliva.

The atmosphere in the lobby was quite tense.
Although it is not early in the morning, there are a few hunters present. As for the hunters who accidently happen to be there, for those who are unaware, their companions informed them about the organization『Maruuna・Niyuumu 』.
Among the hunters who were uninformed about the group, when they saw Iraida and Makushiimu lined-up behind Maruuna・Niyuumu, they knew something big was going to happen.

「I, Oofuia, the head chief of『Maruuna・Niyuumu 』have come here to request a report from the chief of this branch.」(Oofuia)
When the arrogant staff member saw the dark green robe, his nervousness shown through.

「Y-yes, reporting.」(staff member)
Without saying much, the staff member hurried to the back room of the building.

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With this hands calmly placed behind his back, the branch chief didn't appear afraid.
Zauru is also standing behind him.
Like usual, the branch chief called them to his office.
「Oh my, who do we have here, Oofuia-sama. I thank you very much for having come all the way to this remote location. Did you come here for a request? Nevertheless, I welcome you here. Everyone here in Sarewado (サレハド) has heard of your splendid achievements, so by all means, feel free to grace this village with your ability. Is that not why we cooperate with another?」(Yakofu)
The branch chief says this all without pausing.
「Thank you very much; however, I came here today for a different matter.」(Oofuia)
She continued to speak.
「There has been a complaint filed against this hunter branch; I'm here to investigate that matter. Oh, branch chief, the complaint is directed at you.」(Oofuia)
「Oh, that, there must be some sort of mistake; otherwise, someone is plotting against me.」(Yakofu)
The branch chief gave an exaggerated sigh.
「Let us see, you arbitrary interpreted the association's rules in your favor, outright abused the association's rules, abused the rules pertaining to obligatory requests, falsified hunter records, and dismissed a potential calamity report. Do these sound like mistakes to you?」(Oofuia)
「Of course, it does. Everything I have done, it falls in line in according to my duty as the branch chief. I have no memory of committing such deeds. Are these complaints not lies? If that is the case, then there is no need for you to deliver judgment.」(Yakofu)
Oofuia grieved as the branch chief showed no signs of remorse for his crimes, only anger.
「Is that so? I had hope that you would admit your crime, but you do not.」

(Oofuia)
「I have committed no crime; I'm sorry, but there is nothing for me to confess.」
(Yakofu)
The branch chief tilted his head as to show his puzzlement, a display of his arrogance.
Oofuia and Arii glanced at each other.
They brought out the copies of Kurando's hunter requests.
「Will you still play dumb after looking at these?」 (Oofuia)
A stack of papers is left on the branch chief's desk.
「What are these?」 (Yakofu)
「Ah, they are evidence of your abuse of the hunter association's rules. I can't seem to understand your logic behind sending a Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th-star) to complete a Riguserupu (リグセルプ, 1st-star) rank request.」 (Oofuia)
「Well, there is a reason for that. The hunter was recommended by the『white spear (白槍)』, Makushiiimu・Daaru (マクシーム・ダール); I thought it wouldn't be a problem for the newcomer. Anyhow, he was able to complete the request in 4 days, magnificent work, you see.」 (Yakofu)
「Then, why are there no records of the request? Well, is the writing document not proof enough of your misdeed?」 (Yakofu)
「H-hey now, that must be one of the staff members' mistake. Yes, a human error.」 (Yakofu)
「About that, the request was recorded for Iraida・Baagin, but for some reason the records for the other person had not been recorded. Is that also a mishap?」 (Oofuia)
And thus, Oofuia looked over to the staff members by the desk in the back room.
They looked down and didn't raise their head.
「Really? Isn't that just the magic tool malfunctioning? Perhaps, the tag is defective.」 (Yakofu)
「There was no problem with the tag. Who do you think I am; I happen to be the original holder of that magic tool. So, the magic tool is defective, huh. Okay then, let us escalate the matter.」 (Oofuia)
「Now now, there is no need for Oofuia to go through all this trouble.」 (Yakofu)
「Your concern is not needed as there is no one more certain than I.」 (Oofuia)
Having said so, Oofuia passed through the swing door at the reception desk and

begins to check the magic tools used to record hunter related information, one by one.
After awhile, she finished examining every tool and learned their contents.
「There are no problems; the engineer in charge of maintenance did a good job as the tools are in great condition.」(Oofuia)
「H-how strange. They have a tendency to malfunction every now and then.」(Yakofu)
「By chance, huh? Then, what about Baron Potapenko's (ポタペンコ男爵) Toramora herb (トラモラ) shiodzuke (塩漬け) request, it was accepted per say the association's rule and all parties had accepted, so would you care to explain why the request became invalid upon completion.」(Oofuia)
Perhaps the branch chief was relieved that the topic changed, he took out a handkerchief and wiped the sweat off his forehead before giving a reply.
「You see, we had received a direct notice from the parliament. Under their authority, we had the right invalidate the request; however, during that time, the newcomer was unavailable and thus we couldn't contact him. It was out of our control.」(Yakofu)
「That is the association's mistake, and not the hunter's fault.」(Oofuia)
「But, rules are rules.」(Yakofu)
「Is that so? Then shall I contact Baron Potapenko and ask him about the request?」(Oofuia)
「That is,」(Yakofu)
「I would like to hear Baron Potapenko's testimony.」(Oofuia)
「About that, you see, Baron Potapenko had been pestering the newcomer about the Toramora herb.」(Yakofu)
「The problem is that you did not contact the newcomer.」(Oofuia)
「Ah, that was my responsibility and it is inexcusable.」(Yakofu)
「So then, why is it that you did not investigate the report about the potential disaster; is that not your duty?」(Oofuia)
Inside the association became noisy.
A potential monster outbreak is a threat to the country itself. Even if Dorugan (ドルガン) didn't investigate, they must have at least heard the rumor about it.
In the past, there have been countries that made light of a monster outbreak and had half their country destroyed.

「Hold it, I definitely never heard such information.」(Yakofu)
The branch chief acted as if he was unaware of the report.
It has been quite a long time since the branch chief and Sarewado (サレハド) village had experienced a monster outbreak. As a result, their caution to such an event had waned.
In other words, they were more or less willing to believe a report from their local hunters rather than that of a stranger such as Kurando.
「Then, are you saying you did not receive a report from a 10th-star hunter called Kurando?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia turned to look at the face of the arrogant staff member.
The branch chief glared at the staff member; all the while, Oofuia watch them, sweat oozed from the staff member's forehead.
「……I received nothing of the sort.」(staff member)
As she watched him, Oofuia was disappointed by the staff member.
「……is that so? I have confirmed it with my own eyes, the shield and club of an ice warrior.」(Oofuia)
Once more, inside the association became noisy.
「It may be impolite of me but, perhaps, Oofuia-sama is mistaken?」(Yakofu)
「……oh yes, you could be right as I am quite old.」(Oofuia)
「Many apologizes, it is a conclusion that anyone would assume.」(Yakofu)
The branch chief showed a somewhat relieved expression.
「Iraida・Baagin (イライダ・バーギン), what do you think?」(Oofuia)
Suddenly, upon being called on, Iraida stepped forward. As usual, she is wearing a tight red corset-like leather armor that emphasizes her breast.
「Yes, from what I saw, the small shield was indeed an equipment that had belonged to a monster.」(Iraida)
Iraida and Kurando had gone to the mountain to confirm if the equipment was from a monster. However, there were no traces of the monster and they didn't venture deeper as there was only the two of them.
「Unless, I, Iriada・Baagin, am mistaken; then otherwise, what I'm saying is a lie.」(Iraida)
The branch chief then begins to speak.
「I don't know. For argument's sake, it is impossible for me to listen to the reports of every refugee that comes along.」(Yakofu)

「Rules are rules. My point is that you did receive the report.」(Oofuia)
「U, u, uh, I received no such report——」(Yakofu)
「——quiet you. I have already contacted the hunter association headquarters in this country. From here on, the amount of evidence will only increase so I ask that you be obedient.」(Oofuia)
「S, shut up. I don't know what I don't know. It isn't my fault, the staff members are to blame. I was in the dark about all of this. Where is your proof that I'm involved?」(Yakofu)
The branch chief screamed and shouted, pushing the responsibility onto the staff members.
Even at this stage, none of the other staff members spoke up. All of the staff members here are local residences of this village. They are unable to go against the branch chief and the former noble, Zauru.
「I see. Now then, to preserve evidence this hunter association branch will be temporarily closed.」(Oofuia)
「I-idiot, do you think you have the authority to do so.」(Yakofu)
「I do not. However, if I, the head chief of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』were to report this to the hunter association in other countries, hunters would stop coming to this village. Would you not be troubled if high ranking hunters stop coming here?」(Oofuia)
This one remark was deadly sharp.
Of course, this would not only affect the branch chief but also the staff members.
If high ranking hunters stopped coming here, how long before the village is swallowed up by magical beasts.
It was no longer a matter of opposing the branch chief, but rather their families lives would be at risk.
Without being able to sustain their livelihood, the villagers and the village itself would perish.

「B, by the orders of the branch chief, I was told not to keep Kurando's hunting records.」(staff member A)
Following the first person's confession, the others begin to speak up one by one.
「Me too.」(staff member B)
「I-I also was told to say it was my mistake. I'm sorry.」(staff member C)

Oofuia did not want to resort to threatening them. For now, the branch chief will be restrained until the headquarter's staff member's arrival and any evidence that has been preserved is to be collected.
Aside from the sales of excess magical beast material in connection with local former nobles, there were other false reports that had been summited to the hunter association's headquarters.
Nothing was left out.
「I don't know, I don't know. Fucking bastards, you're setting me up. Shit, shit, shit.」(Yakofu)
The branch chief raised his voice and looked around at the faces of the staff members before trying to run out the back door.
However, the members of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』were blocking the exits.
The women jumped out from the side and caught the branch chief, forcing him to the ground.
「No, no, I'm innocent. Shit, women, let go, I'm being kidnapped, why——」(Yakofu)

Oofuia breathes out a sigh of relief.
「Arii, I'll leave the rest to you.」(Oofuia)
Afterward, Arii and the other members of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』left the association building.

——*Dong, dong, dong, dong, dong, dong, dong, dong*

A high pitch bell rings throughout the village.
It took Oofuia by surprise.
Immediately, Makushiimu and Iraida noticed it.
「Makushiimu, Iraida, take care of the villagers. I will go command the association's hunters.」(Oofuia)
Iraida and Makushiimu nodded and then rushed out the building.

「It's a monster raid, an Ekusupuroodo (エクスプロード)! As there is no branch chief to take lead, I, Oofuia the head chief of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』, a Riguserupu (1st-star) will be taking command.」(Oofuia)

She spoke in a loud and dignified voice to calm the startled staff members.

「Go, contact the village chief and the former nobles. Also, go issue an

obligatory request to gather up hunters. If you can, try to enlist the help of the priests.」(Oofuia)
Upon her orders, the staff members moved in order to protect their village.
Suddenly, Zauru was nowhere to be seen.
Did he run away? However, Oofuia didn't have any time to spare for him now.

「The monsters are advancing down from the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain range like an avalanche. At this rate, the first wave will reach the back gate in roughly 10 minutes. Their numbers, unknown, but they appear to be ice type troops.」(gatekeeper)
The gatekeeper who had rushed through the swing door of the association building, while out of breath, he informed them of the situation in a loud voice.

「Send the non-combatants to the front gate and use the magical beast driven carts to evacuate them from the village. Tell the defense corp to gather inside the gate and give them permission to engage in combat. Also, scrape up any bows, stones, and oil you can find.」(Oofuia)

Inside the association building, it had become quite busy as people are buzzing about.
The hunters began to gather one after the other at the association.
But, it seems not all of the hunters has been gathered as some might have run away.
However, now is not the time to condemn them.

In a loud voice, from behind the counter, Oofuia spoke to the mass of hunters that are present.
「Silence!」(Oofuia)
The noise quieted down.
「In place of the absent branch chief, I, Oofuia the head chief of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』, a Riguserupu (1st-star) will be in command. Alright then.」(Oofuia)
No one voiced their discontent.
「Presently, a group of 1000 ice type monsters are descending down the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain range and are headed for this village.」(Oofuia)
The hunters became noisy.
「Quite. Those of you who have gathered here, your task is to intercept the group

of monsters.」(Oofuia)
「L-let us run away.」(hunter A)
Someone said.
Before anyone else could say another word, Oofuia spoke up.
「I must inform you all that the magical beast driven carts have already departed; therefore, desertion is impossible as you won't be able to catch up with them. As of now, you all have no choice but to fight. Although, worry not, because among us are several high-rank hunters. We have with us Makushiimu・Daaru, Iraida・Baagin, Gurosso・Sureinofu (グロッソ・スレイノフ), and Arubaumu's (アルバウム) hero, Hayato・Ichihara (ハヤト・イチハラ). Victory is not impossible.」(Oofuia)
The eyes of 50 or so hunters fall onto Hayato.
Hayato, who had been involuntary nominated as the hunters' pillar of hope, stood there in silence. Surrounding him are his party members; that guy Erica (エリカ), a girl wearing a school uniform, a dark colored girl with long ears, a maho-shoujo (magical girl) wearing a tapered hat, and a tall tiger tribe beastwoman.
Hayato Ichihara had become very famous on this continent for showing great prowess in combating monsters.
Inside the hunters, a faint light of hope had been lit.

「There is no time to get into contact with the surrounding towns and settlements. At best, we can only hope for reinforcements. We will be protecting this village. If we do not hold them off here, the damage will spread as far as Tansuku (タンスク) and Buruoru (ブルオルダ). In that case, it will affect the families of everyone here. As of now, this is a crucial moment.」(Oofuia)

And thus, Oofuia and the hunter defense corp & several staff members along with a few volunteers from the village, a total of 200 hundred people must hold and defend the village from an unprecedented calamity, a raid of『Aisu・Ekusupuroodo』monsters.

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Oofuia casted a fleeting glance in the direction of the cave on the mountain. As the ice monsters approached the village, she prayed for everyone's safety.

Chapter 39: Ice Raid ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので
Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

３９ー氷の襲撃①
Chapter 39 – Ice Raid ①

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Before the warning bell had rung out in Sarewado (サレハド) village.
On Akari's『radar map (レーダーマップ)』, a large group of red marks appeared from within the Arerudouria (アレルドゥリア) mountain range.
The flustered Akari called out to Kurando and Diantia (ディアンティア). They went to the cave behind the cliff to search for the cause of the reaction.
And thus the three of them discovered it.

A large group of monsters, with a white sleek body, are marching through the lush green trees on the opposite side of the mountain.

「Impossible…… they are headed for the village.」(Diantia)
As Diantia said this, she calculated the monsters marching speed.
「It seems so……」(Kurando)
Akari and Diantia turned to look at Kurando.

The two girls gaze caused Kurando to sigh.
To prevent the monsters from descending down the mountain, they would need to intercept them and fight a defensive battle by holding themselves in the cave.
Although if it was only Kurando and Yukishiro, the two of them could probably get away.
And then afterward, they could simply return when the heat had died down.
If Kurando did this, it would mean the number of people who know about him

would decrease.
However, if things go wrong, even though he may survive, the people who happen to live through this would hate him.
If so, that could be troublesome later on.
Therefore, Kurando didn't choose the option to abandon the women and run away on his own.

Kurando won't admit that this was a calculated decision.
He won't say, that above all, he felt that he should stay here and fight.
If one thinks about it rationally, the women shouldn't be here on the mountain in the first place.
In other words, in the end, there are some things that shouldn't be discarded.
Kurando himself wasn't reluctant as this was something he didn't disagree on.
First off, where would he escape to?
Sorry but, he doesn't feel like running away whenever a monster happens to appear.

「Well, it can't be helped then. Let us ambush them here.」(Kurando)
And thus it was decided that Kurando & Yukishiro, Akari, Diantia, Maanya (マーニャ), and the other 8 members that Oofuia (オーフィア) had left behind will engage the monsters in siege warfare.
Diantia and Akari sighed out in relief.
At once, the two ran off to gather up the women from『Maruuna・Niyuumu (月の女神の付き人, マルゥナ・ニュゥム, moon goddess's attendant)』.
Now that the nuisance was gone, Kurando decided to go observe the group of monsters.
However, from nearby, Yukishiro pressed its body weight against him.
「……oh, you remembered, huh?」(Kurando)
——*Growl*
Before Kurando stood the very displeased Yukishiro, its tail stands erect and showed no movement.
Yukishiro remembered the day its partner, Kurando, laid soaked in blood.
「I know, however——」(Kurando)

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Kurando, Akari and the members of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』gathered once

more in the cave.
They carried all of their luggage into the cave and began to make preparations.
While looking at his surroundings, Kurando thought about something.
It is good fortune that they have the cave to fall back to; however, it is unfortunate that only Kurando & Yukishiro, Akari, Diantia, and some of the other women aside from Maanya will be the ones who have to hold off the monster that will be assaulting the cave's entrance.
However, currently, Yukishiro isn't around.
「This time, chances are, after we intercept the monsters outside, we will be forced to hold off against them by defending from the cave. Fortunately for us, we won't have to worry about the monsters attacking us from above as we will be fighting a one-front battle with the field advantage in our favor. Everyone make defeating the enemies' bow users your top priority. As the monsters are ice types, fire is effective against them. During this season, there is no need to worry about starting a wildfire, so please, don't hold back as there is no need to worry about a fire spreading.」(Diantia)
Diantia watched as everyone nodded.
「We must not lose the cave. An (アン), Metti (メッティ), Iiisu (イース), Ruushie (ルゥシエ), and Oruga (オルガ) finish the enemy off with spirit magic. If anyone from the vanguard is down, please retrieve them; however, for your own sake, don't go too far out as we don't have much personal on-hand.」(Diantia)
After Diantia gave instructions to the meager fighting force, the five women nervously nodded.
「Akari and Maanya, I ask that the two of you provide support to the vanguard.」(Diantia)
Akari and Maanya acknowledged it.
Kurando turned to look at Diantia.
He had equipped the dark gray leather armor and the『giant's glove』; the ice warrior's small shield is fastened to his arm and around his waist is the kukuri katana & boomerang, on his legs is an assortment of throwing weapons.
「I'm sorry but, Kurando-san; you & I, Agata (アガタ), Rubuna (ルブナ), and Guadarupe (グアダルペ) together we will be fighting off the monsters that enter the cave. And if possible, I would like Iruniiku to join us.」(Diantia)
Diantia, who is looking at Kurando, had expected to enlist Yukishiro but it isn't

around.
「Its name is Yukishiro, and it does its own thing, okay. As for me, sure I'll help. Although don't expect much, I'm simply a Ruterera (ルテレラ, 10th-star).」 (Kurando)
For awhile, Diantia stared at Kurando's face before giving up. She shouldn't rely too much on him as Kurando is already lending them his cave.
Although the chief seems to think Kurando is talented, he doesn't seem to be at the moment. Anyways, Diantia chose not to put too much faith in an unknown factor.
She begins to think.
「Well, do what you can.」 (Diantia)
After she said this, Kurando placed his hand along the wall of the cave as he walked.
With a puzzled expression on her face, Diantia watched as the opening became narrow where Kurando had touched.
A short time later, the path that two people could fit through was shrunken down to where only a single person could pass.
Kurando exhaled.
Diantia calls out to him.
「How is your maryoku supply?」 (Diantia)
Seeing that Kurando didn't appear fatigue, her evaluation of him rose.
Kurando fluttered his hand in the air as he moved to check outside the cave.
「No problem, I'm fairly efficient in maryoku usage.」 (Kurando)
As he said this, Kurando recalled the parent magical beast and thought he finally started to reach its footsteps.

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The monsters are 10 minutes away.
Kurando and the others exited the cave; they ascend the mountain to find an area to observe the monsters from above.
The trees that the ice monster passed would become frozen and collapse.
The white wave ascends up the mountain.
Diantia gives a vigorous shout.
「Now then, let us show them the ability of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』. Show them that the chief's training was not for nothing!」 (Diantia)

Of all the women, Diantia was the only one who seemed the least startled.
Their training must have been unpleasant.
Diantia draws the short sword from her back and points it as the largest group.
And then, she recited something.

【*Ég jörð, sprungaí jörðu*】
【*Earth Split*】

【【【*Ég jörð, sprungaí jörðu*】】】
【【【*Earth Split*】】】

As Diantia chanted in a dignified voice, the other 9 members chanted together with her.
From the center of the largest group of monsters, the earth began to split.
All of a sudden, the scattered monsters that were there fell down.
「It was used simultaneously, huh? How more effective is it?」(Kurando)
He is astonished as this was the first time Kurando saw spirit magic being used by multiple people all at once.
Although spirit magic doesn't need an incantation to be used, when using it in a group, chanting together makes it easier to get the timing right. As it was done skillfully, the synergy from the union of earth spirits rose the power of the magic.
「It is considerably deep. They won't be able to crawl out as they are trapped in there. In truth, I should have used fire spirit magic; however, earth is naturally my element. My affinity with earth spirits is high and I'm weak with fire spirits. You see, all of my comrades who are skillful with fire spirits have passed away.」(Diantia)
Immediately, Diantia made a troubled expression.

「*Nyahahaha*, burn, *nyaa*.」(Maanya)

Maanya was more eye-catching than the monsters as she set the forest ablaze.
「……a pyromaniac, huh?」(Kurando)
Kurando was unaware of how right he was, Maanya indeed enjoys throwing fire around.
He looked away from Maanya and set his eyes onto the fissure. As he thought, the monsters were not trapped in the fissure and it continued to press forward.
Uncontained, they crawl out. As Kurando watched them emerge from the fissure, he muttered to himself.

「Then, shall I bury them altogether?」(Kurando)
Saying this, Kurando used earth spirit magic.
He made used of the pre-existing earth, bringing forth a sea of dirt, a far cry from being simply maryoku efficient.
The surrounding earth is collected and the fissure is swiftly covered.
「With this, it should be awhile before they can reappear.」(Kurando)
After saying this, Kurando turned to look at Maanya.
Diantia is completely dumbfounded. Kurando in the middle of combat, he thought to use ordinary 3rd-class magic to cover-up a crevice created by 10 people. Although he didn't use 10 people worth of maryoku himself, he simply collected the surrounding dirt. Chances are, his maryoku quantity is probably about around what an average magic soldier would have.

Maanya fire magic melted the fierce monsters. The monsters who had lost their ability to walk, they crawled on the ground like a caterpillar.
Kurando picks up a hand full of stone and enchants them with spirit power.
His extremely efficient use of spirit magic was very beneficial in the battle.
And thus, before the monsters who had lost their footing could recover, Kurando defeated them using the stones enchanted with spirit power.
Flying like an arrow, the stones are embedded into the face of the monsters that have their limbs melted.
The stones that had been enchanted with spirit power are quickly used up.
In succession, Kurando throws the stones, then more stones, and even more stones.

Diantia who is watching Kurando, she begins to re-think her evaluation of him.
She prepares her bow.
「Do not worry about the cost of resupplying arrows! Just focus on shooting!」(Diantia)
While freezing the surface of the mountain as it walked, the monsters continued to advance as arrow after arrow pierced them.
Although they weren't able to enchant all of the arrows with spirit power, the monsters still collapsed and dissipated.

「Keep shooting!」(Diantia)
「Shoot over here also.」(Diantia)

With every defeated monster, not even an hour would pass before yet another would appear to take its place.
Diantia fires the last arrow.
「There is no choice, withdraw!」 (Diantia)
As she lowered her bow, Diantia calls for a retreat.
Hearing her voice, Kurando also prepared to finish up.
Not too long ago, Kurando had created 3 balls of earth about his height.
These lumps of dirt, the size of a boulder, were set on the cliff. Kurando then applied spikes coated with earth spirit magic onto them.
One by one, spikes reinforced by earth spirit magic appeared on the balls made of soil. He then threw them off the cliff with force.
「*Haa!*」 (Kurando)
In total, 3 were thrown.
The condensed lumps of earth flattened the monsters as it came tumbling down, rolling over and scraping everything in its path.
「*Phew*, exhausting.」 (Kurando)
Completing this difficult task, he wiped the sweat from his brow and returned to the cave.

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「How is your maryoku supply holding up?」 (Akari)
When Kurando had returned to the cave, he is greeted with Akari's surprised expression. If it was her, her maryoku would have already run out.
「I think I'm about down to half, I can't give you a numeral estimate, though.」 (Kurando)
Based on her knowledge, Akari guessed that Kurando has about five times more maryoku than a typical magic soldier. While it isn't too strange, she couldn't quite call it normal either.
Akari overlooked it as he did try to leave some maryoku in reserve.
「Because you're small, maybe that is why you're having difficulties increasing your maryoku pool.」 (Kurando)
「I, I'm not small. Hey, where do you think you're looking, anyways.」 (Akari)
His line-of-sight is directed on Akari's modest size chest. Of course, his eyes are glued to her white flat chest.
Kurando pats Akari's shoulders before making his way into the interior of the

cave.
「T-trying to comfort me, how uncool you blockhead.」(Akari)
With steam rising from her head, Akari vigorously chased after Kurando.
Diantia gazed at the pleasant scene before closing the cave's entrance with soil and adding more walls to reinforce the cave.
Although her actions may be a futile attempt to hide from monsters that are capable of detect maryoku. Perhaps by chance, she hoped that the monster might simply pass by them.
In case the entrance is breached, she placed walls in all directions; although not enough to completely bury themselves inside the cave.

「Well, for here onwards, we will have to endure until Oofuia-sama returns here.」(Diantia)
Upon hearing Diantia's words, Kurando showed a faint frown.
「……was anyone injured?」(Akari)
Akari showed a concerned expression. Kurando responds by shaking his head no.
「……ah, as I thought, they came.」(Diantia)
Without having a chance to think, Diantia noticed it.
The sound of something digging through the earth can be heard.
While thinking it was a pain, Kurando picked up a short spear.
「That spear, the tip doesn't appear to be iron, *nya*.」(Maanya)
Maanya's eyes are sharp.
A white tipped spearhead had been placed on the shaved wooden shaft.
「Ah, it is a horn from a Rirobeechi (氷潜角白熊, リロベーチ, horned ice-polar bear).」(Kurando)
It is a 30-centimeter horn similar to that of a narwhal's horn. The pale screw-like horn is dense and hard with a sharp tip.
「……I never heard of that magical beast, *nya*.」(Maanya)
「It buries itself beneath glaciers. Since ancient time, it has inhabited the north pole and because of the lack of food it feeds on dead flesh. I don't know why you have that but I have no complaint if you are going to use that weapon on the ice monsters.」(Diantia)
Diantia gave an explanation.
Kurando doesn't tell them that the magical beast was left by the parent magical beast.

「Huh, Kurando-san, you can use the spear?」(Akari)
Akari was eavesdropping.
「That reminds me, I have not been using one. You see, when I was at the village, Iraida had instructed me a little bit on how to use it.」(Kurando)
「Iraida-san?」(Akari)
「Are you talking about, Iraida・Baagin.」(Diantia)
Kurando shrugs his shoulders.
「I only know the first name.」(Kurando)
With spear in hand, he faced towards the entrance of the cave.
「Well then, let us go with taking shifts. We will switch after am tired out, alright.」(Kurando)
「Ah, I will take the first shift.」(Diantia)
「For now, let me judge it for myself. Perhaps, I may want to run away; thus, I need to see beforehand what can be done.」(Kurando)
Having said so, Kurando briskly walked to the entrance and waited.
Akari followed behind him.
「I'll provide some support.」(Akari)
For behind, Diantia watched them.
「Hey, I forgot to enchant it with spirit power.」(Akari)
After saying so, Akari enchanted Kurando's spear with spirit power.
「Ah, sorry for the trouble.」(Kurando)
As this is Kurando's second confrontation, he is nervous.
The first time, Kurando broke his jaw and both his arms.
This time, no such thing will happen.
With his numb feet standing firmly on the ground, he grits his teeth.

Having finally broken through the dirt wall, a white monster appeared.
In that moment, Kurando moved the short spear to the white figure.
At times, before he pulled back the short spear, the monsters that had its face hollowed out had already collapsed.
Iraida has taught Kurando how to thrust with the spear.
Afterward, it was a matter of repeating that process. Now, all he needed to do was imagine where the enemy would move.
Without taking a breather, Kurando faced the monsters that appeared one after the other from the broken dirt wall.

The first time, he felt fear but there was not a moment to hesitate.
He continued to thrust the spear.
From time to time, a shield would deflect the spear; however, a 2nd thrust, a 3rd thrust, and more thrusts are given until the monster fell.
How many have been defeat? Kurando questions this as he felt the weariness in his arm.
「Switch.」(Akari)
As she says this, Akari walked to the entrance and headed towards the monsters.
While Kurando saw Akari pass by him, he switched with Diantia.
「Good work. There is no problem, so, you can entrust it to me.」(Diantia)
「Wait, use this spear. It cuts like butter.」(Kurando)
Diantia looked at Kurando's spear.
「……then I will borrow it.」(Diantia)
Having said so, Diantia received the spear and moved in front of Akari.
「Anyone can use it if they want to. Oh, you may break the shaft; however, make sure to return the spearhead before you die, alright?」(Kurando)
As he turned to look at the remaining women, Kurando showed a smile to indicate that he was joking.
「I-I will borrow it.」(woman A)
「Atai (アタイ), doesn't need it; she is better with an ax.」(woman B)
The women begin to quarrel with each other.
They don't seem to be backed into a corner as of yet.
「Do as you please. As I am tired, I'm going to sleep. Wake me up after the first complete shift rotation.」(Kurando)
Having said this, Kurando goes to rest.

By the time Kurando got up, there had been; 2, 3, no 4 complete shift rotations.
From what he could see, 10 or so women were obviously exhausted.
While the rear guard prepares meals, of those who are weary and nervous, they lay sleepy as they crouch on the floor.
Between the short breaks after combat, the amount of rest they were allotted wasn't enough.
Currently, Kurando is making his way to the front encampment to once again do the repetitive work of stabbing monsters to death.

However, no matter how repetitive and tiring it may be, one mistake will lead to death; therefore, one must not let their guard down.
Kurando looked back and gave a fleeting glance to the interior of the cave.
Except for Diantia, everyone else is considerably tired. A few people are injured, but no one has been badly wounded; although, it is only a matter of time before it happens.
「As expected, there aren't enough people.」 (Kurando)
A monster returns the favor.
Mimicking him, a monster thrust a spear at Kurando.
「*Kuh*」 (Kurando)
He was somehow able to block it with the small shield on his arm, but the force pushed him back.
It moved to followed up with an attack.
However, the monster's face is torn apart.
As an opening appeared, Kurando promptly thrust his spear.
Something swiftly exterminated the monster as their bodies are thrown against the wall. And then, it leaned against Kurando's body.

A white coat with black specks spread across Kurando's line-of-sight.

And thus, for the first time, the monsters vigorous advance into the cave began to decline.

– ToC –

Chapter 40: Ice Raid ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４０ー氷の襲撃②

Chapter 40 – Ice Raid ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The sky appeared to have reddened.

Oofuia (オーフィア) and the others managed to defeat the monsters that were headed for the village. She then made her way to the mountain.

In several places, she saw frozen trees and noticed an ominous silence.

They quickly made their way through the area.

Any remnant of the monster group that they happened to come across was swiftly dealt with.

By using the power, they quickly rushed through the mountain as there was no time to waste.

The effect of the『Providence (神の加護, プロヴィデンス, divine blessing)』had become an unexpected blessing for her.

Oofuia sends a fleeting glance to her rear.

The hero, Hayato and his party are following behind her.

His group was mostly uninjured; and thus, they volunteered to accompany her.

It is unknown as to how many monsters still remain on the mountain; although, with their few numbers, the women of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』that were left on mountain had been caught up in a hopeless situation.

With his knowledge about『Ekusupuroodo (エクスプロード, monster raids)』, Hayato warned her it is not something to be underestimated.

Certainly, Hayato’s opinion about a『Ekusupuroodo (monster raids)』is correct.

She didn’t want to take them along with her to Kurando’s cave, but the situation is urgent. The situation is dangerous even if there were a few monsters remaining.
Above all, Oofuia wasn’t sure if she could defeat the remaining monsters alone. She had given them permission to accompany her.

After leaving the village, they had traversed the mountain for several hours. What awaited them was a difficult scene to believe.
Certainly, when they were ascending the mountain, they didn’t encounter many monsters.
However, when they sense the danger, they wanted to run——

The monsters that were swarming the cave were being swarmed and mowed down by Atorabashiku(s) (アトラバシク, giant thorny spider).

Around the area of the cave, there were many large Atorabashiku corpses and squashed remains of monster that had yet to dissipate. The scattered pieces of monsters can be seen wiggling around.
The Atorabashiku had left their territory to wage war with the group of monsters.
In all her years, this is the first time Oofuia had witness such a thing.

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Prior to Oofuia’s return.
Kurando tries to question Yukishiro, but Yukishiro ran past him and went into the interior of the cave.
「Hey,」(Kurando)
Kurando immediately stood up and then goes back to denying the monsters entree into the cave.
A loud sound comes from the interior of the cave.
「……things sound rather hectic. Hey, someone switch with me.」(Kurando)
Saying this, Kurando moved to the room in the interior of the cave. At last, he got a moment to breathe.
He passed by Diantia (ディアンティア). It seemed she wanted to say something, but she simply made her way to the entrance.

In the room inside the cave, Yukishiro was stuffing its mouth with meat.

Kurando noticed, in bits of places, the dyed spots of red on Yukishiro's white coat.
「You saved us, Yukishiro.」(Kurando)
——*Mugg……gururr*
Upon hearing Kurando's voice, Yukishiro merely glanced at him before it wholeheartedly when back to enjoy its meal.
「Wh, what happened?」(Akari)
Akari asked Kurando a question.
After taking a looked around, he noticed that everyone had gathered and is looking at him.
「Yukishiro went to pull the threads of the Atorabashiku(s) and has led them here to the cave.」(Kurando)
Akari realized what he meant; although, the women from『Maruuna・Niyuumu』jaws dropped as they tried to comprehend what had happened.
She herself had experienced it first-hand; the other women have not, so they do not understand what it meant for Yukishiro to have incited the Atorabashiku.
「Is that way Diantia-neesan is staying silent?」(woman A)
「I see no thread, nya, where is it, nya?」(Maanya)
「I cannot see it either, but——」(Kurando)
After finishing its meat, Yukishiro begins to groom itself. Kurando treated its wounds and then once more, Yukishiro groomed its fur until there were no blood stains left.
——*Gurr*
It lightly growled and then stares at the corner of the room.
Of course, there was nothing there.
Maanya runs over there and searched the area.
「There, nya, I want, nya! Why does it feel so strange?」(Maanya)
Maanya, with both her hands, pulled the invisible thread.
「*Uhh*」(woman A)
「*Kyaa*」(woman B)
「*Yaa*」(woman C)
As the thread that was placed along the ground is pulled up, in surprise, the women raised their voice.
Their legs and arms were caught in the thread. The thread wedged into various

parts of their thighs and waist.
「Don't look.」(Akari)
Akari, who was unaffected, glared at Kurando.
Kurando chuckled as he made his way over to Yukishiro and then took out a brush.
Yukishiro relaxed its posture as it showed a cocky expression.
——*Guoo*
As if it was saying, "*I will let you brush me,*" was the expression it gave off.
While chuckling, Kurando began to brush Yukishiro.
At that moment, Yukishiro squinted its eyes and stretched out its tail.
「H, how envious. I want to *fluff-fluff*……」(woman A)
「*A~ah, nya,* I will too, *nya!*」(Maanya)
Maanya lets go of the thread and approached Yukishiro.
However, Yukishiro heartless lifts its tail and restrained Maanya.
「*Nyaa!*」(Maanya)
Maanya who is restrained by the tail is thrown.
「*Unyaa*」(Maanya)
And thus, their playful act started.
From what he could see, Kurando was not going to have a moment to rest.

「Where is everyone! Switch with me!」(Diantia)
When Maanya heard Diantia's voice, she stopped playing with Yukishiro's tail and ran away.
「Just wait, when the chief hears about this you will be severely punished.」(Diantia)
Diantia whispered this as she walked by.
Maanya face turned blue as she hurried towards the entrance to where the monsters are, from her hand 3 nails that emitted fire spirit magic extended from her fingertips.
「No, *nya*ーーーーーー*a*！」(Maanya)
Maanya cry echoed throughout the cave.
She rushed out to be the next vanguard on shift.

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As Akari gave them an explanation, Diantia showed a shocked expression when

she looked at Yukishiro and Kurando.
「Certainly, compared to before, the rate of the monster's invasion has decreased. When I first saw the swarm of Atorabashiku(s) fighting against the horde of monsters, I thought the world was coming to an end.」(Diantia)
Diantia stared at Kurando as he continued to brush Yukishiro.
「Well you see, I don't really know how things will turn out.」(Kurando)
Diantia, who had become used to Kurando's attitude, gave up and then sighed.
「Well, perhaps it will work out.」(Diantia)
Diantia doesn't mention that this incident had extended their time.
Currently, it is around mid-day, in 3 hours or so it will get dark.
For what Diantia had surmised, if Yukishiro had not returned, they would have only lasted until sunset.
That was how bad their situation was.
As she thought about things, Diantia is handed a meal.
Without eating, those of the crystal tribe would not be able to move. Their main source of food is something similar to a soup.
「Is it alright for me to receive this?」(Diantia)
She directs the question to Kurando who is manning a pot on the fireplace.
Kurando nodded. The bowl filled with a white liquid had been placed beside her.
Diantia brought the soup to her mouth. Her body stopped.
「Is it not to your liking?」(Kurando)
Diantia gradually began to tremble.
「Wh, what is this, may I ask?」(Diantia)
「A curry-flavored stew. Ah, and there was also some Toramora (トラモラ) herbs added.」(Kurando)
「How luxurious, but this white liquid? The moment my lips touched it, its nourishment quickly spread throughout my body.」(Diantia)
「Ahh, well. The origin is unknown, but it is nothing strange, so no worries, okay.」(Kurando)
Those of the earth tribe have an exceptional ability to extract nutrients from food. Diantia had absorbed the omnipotent nutrient from the french bread that he had received from the food supply which had sustained Kurando for half a year. The bread was something that a person could restore their energy with one bite.

「Is that so, well that is too bad. It was able to replenish my maryoku a little bit. I wonder just how much nutrient does it hold.」(Diantia)
In his mind, Kurando compared Diantia to a plant taking in fertilizer, but he did not say it out loud and merely turned to look at Yukishiro.
A grumbling noise can be heard for its throat as a cat and one animal are laying down.
When he saw them huddled together, Kurando tried to get away.
However, Yukishiro didn't permit this; it bounded Kurando with its tail.
Like a big fat and soft snake, the tail tightly wrapped around him.
Kurando chuckled and then as he sat there, he continued to brush Yukishiro.

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The cave is dyed a maddening red.
How many rotations have occurred, no one knows?
The rear-guard and mid-guard have reached their maryoku limit. While, gradually, for the vanguard, the wait between each shift became shorter as each moment felt longer than the next.
A member of the vanguard broken their leg, shortened their shifts and further hastening their weariness.
In the room, no one said a word.

Hyun.
A spear is thrust and it cuts through the air.
Kurando clicked his tongue as a monster rushed at him with a spear, but he managed to block with his small shield.
He lets go of the spear in his hand, transfers maryoku into the glove and then seized the monster by its face.
With the monster head in his hand, Kurando imagines the『giant's glove』hardening, using his grip strength; cracks appeared on the monster's face.
And just like that, Kurando stopped the monster's advance.
He refines the spirit magic in the glove and crushed its face.
As the monster dissipate, the face of another monster appears.
「Did I keep you waiting?」(Kurando)
While say this, he prepared his spear.
The spear matched the monster's charge and thrust——

——outside the cave is dyed red.

After exterminating the monster, Kurando carefully peeked outside.
Outside the cave, there is a surging fire.
Kurando hears the sound of something hitting the ground, the sound of slashing, and the sound of fighting.
He takes a deep breath and then another.
Reinforcements have arrived.
The proof, no more monster are trying to enter the cave.

Kurando conveys this to the people behind him.
Akari showed a relieved expression when she heard it and runs to the inner room.
Kurando decided to standby in the cave in case something went wrong.
He doesn't want a repeat of how he broke his jaw and arm to happen once again.

A short while later, the noise outside calmed down.
「Is it over?」(Diantia)
Diantia calls out to Kurando from behind.
「It seems so. Umm, should I go check?」(Kurando)
「……please tread carefully.」(Diantia)
「……hey now, don't jinx it.」(Kurando)
「For us of the earth race, your expression is difficult to read, you know.」(Diantia)
「……yeah, it is a habit of mine.」(Kurando)
To prevent himself from appearing weak and cowardly, it is a habit Kurando developed to give himself confidence.

The wind spirits reported that there were no enemies near the cave's entrance.
With caution, Kurando peeked his head out of the cave.
「Alright, all clear.」(Kurando)
His heart stopped; Kurando prepares his spear.
However, there were no monsters to speak of. He groans.
「Hey, hey, it's me, Makushiimu.」(Makushiimu)
In relief, Kurando lowered his spear.

「What is the muscle monster doing here?」(Kurando)
Being surprised, Kurando retorted with name-calling.
「Tsk, if you're resorting to verbal abuse, you must be quite lively. Jeeze, I have you know, I'm fairly popular with the night-time onee-chans.」(Makushiimu)
「It was a compliment.」(Kurando)
Makushiimu turns his back to Kurando's cold gaze.
「Hey, is everyone alright.」(Makushiimu)
Ignoring Kurando, Makushiimu called out to the women inside the cave.
「A compliment.」(Diantia)
「Yep, flattery, it is then.」(Kurando)
「Well, it is important to give a compliment or two every now and then.」(Diantia)
Makushiimu lets the verbal attack slide.
And then, he dropped his shoulders and made a long sigh.
「It is good that you are safe.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia's voice comes from behind Makushiimu.
Both she and Makushiimu (who appears fine) are covered in wounds.
「Good job, you all did excellently.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia turns to look at the face of Diantia and other women.
「You honor us; it was all part to Kurando-san's Atorabashiku?」(Diantia)
Lastly, Oofuia turned to ask Kurando.
「That was Yukishiro's handy work.」(Kurando)
「I see?」(Oofuia)
Saying this, Oofuia silently bowed.
「……I have received various things from you. It is inexcusable, but still, sorry for everything. I have broken my promise and brought unrelated people here.」(Oofuia)
Kurando shrugged his shoulders.
「There is no need to further this conversation. If you had not come, we would have been annihilated. Raising a fuss now, it would be shameful of me to think poorly of your noble deed.」(Kurando)
Oofuia slowly raised her head.
「Okay. I had want to arrive sooner——」(Oofuia)
At that moment.

「——well then, we will be returning to the village. Is it alright for us to collect the spoils belonging to the ones we defeated?」(???)
From behind, Oofuia is greeted by a youthful looking man.
She is hesitant to turn around; while trying to shield Kurando from view, Oofuia turned around.
「You were a great help. I will be sure to tell that to the hunter association as well. Of course, feel free to take your spoils with you.」(Oofuia)
「Understood. Well, then——」(???)
The youthful man's eyes are drawn to the man, Kurando, who is behind Oofuia.
And thus, he noticed it, that man is Kurando.

Hasebe Kurando and Ichihara Hayato.
Since that time, about 702 days had passed before they encountered each other.

– ToC –

Chapter 41: Meeting

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４１ー邂逅

Chapter 41 – Meeting

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Upon the chance encounter, Akari was at a loss of what to do.
If she were to greet him, what would she say?
Would she praise his promotion, or should she condemn him?

Oofuia and Makushiimu watched Akari's bizarre and puzzling behavior.

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Kurando and Hayato silently stared at one another, unmoving.
The two of them seemed to be thinking the same thing.
However, things did not immediately turn hostile.
From Hayato's rear, Kurando saw some women running over to them. Chances are, those women are a part of Hayato's party.
It would be troublesome to have Erica here also.
Erica's presence here could lead to an unforeseen situation.
Kurando prepared for the worst.
Kurando looked towards Hayato and signals to him to make his way into the cave.
For awhile, Hayato thought about it before nodding.
While Kurando retrieved a notebook from his breast-pocket, Yukishiro who is sitting across from them acknowledged it and they when into the cave.
After being surprised that an Iruniiku was accustom to people, Hayato continued

walking.
Hayato's party caught up and they rushed towards the cave.
——*Growl*
Yukishiro blocks the entrance and keeps anyone else from entering.
「Hey, out of the way, you magical beast.」(Erica)
Erica's surrounding became noisy.
Yukishiro's elevated growl alerted them that it was ready to pounce.
The force causes a stalemate between itself and Erica.
「Erica-san, it has been awhile.」(Akari)
Akari called out to Erica as she forced her way in between Yukishiro and him.
In truth they wanted to follow Hayato into the cave; however, Erica found it strange for the two of them to meet each here and chose to stay behind. He judged the mood was not hostile.
「……Ah, if it is not the person who refused Hayato's invitation, Akari the hunter, correct? Hayato has been searching the area for you. Did you really ensnare those people?」(Erica)
「I see, thank you very much for your concern and sorry for worrying you, but Ichihara-san should be unrelated to this.」(Akari)
「Unrelated? Hayato was worried, how does it not concern him?」(Erica)
Erica makes a fuss and stomps on the ground.
「You are surprisingly quick-tempered.」(Akari)
Akari took a step back. Although there are no ice monsters to fight, she draws the ice-warrior club at her waist.
She felt fur brush against the bottom of her feet.
At Akari's back is Yukishiro.
She glanced at Yukishiro as it glared at Erica. Having Yukishiro's support, Akari felt reassured.

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「I don't know what is going on but, I don't think you should interfere.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu stood in front of the girl who is wearing a school uniform and carrying a katana.
The woman is about Akari's age and is taller than her.
Her long black hair is tied with a single band. The woman's long body showed no

wasted movement and no openings.
When Makushiimu entered her sword range, his instinct warned him that this person was dangerous.
「Hmm, the commanding officer of the『white spear』,『wall smasher (破城鎚)』, Makushiimu・Daaru…… move aside.」(???)
「It must not be a bad nickname if an ojou-chan such as yourself knows it. However, being manly is, well, a woman should be more composed.」(Makushiimu)
The girl frowned and then glared at Makushiimu.
「……a woman?」(???)
「What does it matter if one is a man or a woman, such thinking is merely a hindrance.」(???)
The girl wearing the uniform and Makushiimu stare each other down.

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「The academy's wonder-child, Arisu・Kingsuton (アリス・キングストンが), it seems the rumor about you traveling with the hero were true.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia smiled as she looked at the girl who is wearing a pointy hat.
「Why must people carelessly spread rumors about me. And what about you;『crimson elf (紅蓮のエルフ)』,『high sorceress (魔道を極めし者)』, and『the moon goddess's beloved child (月の女神の愛し子)』. I don't want to hear it from you who is known by many monikers; are you too not also a prodigy? ——ah, I forgot to mention one,『the kidnapping demon (誘拐魔)』if I recall.」(Arisu)
Even after what was said, Oofuia's expression didn't crumble.
「You, with your ambition, dabbled with summoning magic and brought chaos to the lives of 78 people; do you understand the gravity of your action? Although you may be a princess, with all the power that you hold, have you reflected a little? How do you plan to make-up for it all? While my ability may be poor, I do not mind offering my assisting to you to the best I can.」(Oofuia)
Arisu's face cramped.
「That is none of your business! I will do what I can along with Hayato. I don't have to follow your notation of what is right.」(Arisu)

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Iraida is standing face to face with the tiger beastwoman.

In comparison to the petite-size cat tribe beastman, the tiger tribe beastman generally have a large physique.
As she approached the female tiger tribe beastman, even Iraida, a giantkind, thought this tiger beastwoman was big. And, the color was different.
Above all, the beastwoman's most distinguishing feature was her white fur. Her white hair is styled short. And, a white and black stripped-pattern lines from her ears to her back, to the end of her tail.
「……『bee stinger』, Iraida・Baagin?」(???)
「Oh, you know of me. Yes, I am Iraida・Baagin. So, what do you call yourself?」(Iraida)
「……Fon (フォン). Will you not move aside?」(Fon)
「So, you are a white tiger tribe beastman. What is a rarity such as yourself doing around these parts?」(Iraida)
「……Hayato saved me from slavery and I had vowed to serve him, my benefactor.」(Fon)
「Well, there is no need to get angry now. Hayato should be able to wipe his own ass without you; he should not be that pathetic.」(Iraida)

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「……move.」(???)
The girl with long black ears, clothed in black like a ninja, uttered few words.
「Should you not introduce yourself first?」(Diantia)
「I'm Maanya, nya」(Maanya)
Maanya's sudden interruption surprised Diantia.
「Certainly, I should have introduced myself first…… I'm, Diantia.」(Diantia)
「……move. I have… no interest… in you two.」(???)
Diantia analyzes the rabbit-eared girl.
The girl's eyes held no emotion, her expressions were few, her movements silent and her presence faint.
「……an assassin?」(Diantia)
The girl's long rabbit-ears showed a subtle twitch.
「……so what?」(???)
「That is fine, I already know enough.」(Diantia)
Diantia and Maanya glanced at one another.
Being intrigued by the rabbit-eared girl, Maanya watches her.

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Outside the cave, 5 sets of men and women stand facing each other, while inside the room within the cave, Kurando and Hayato sit face to face around the fireplace.
Hayato's freshly cut black hair, confident black eyes, a single deep scratch mark on his cheek, his bold expression, and arrogant face; Kurando thought Hayato's appearance seemed somewhat dangerous.
Underneath that black leather armor, in opposition to Kurando, Hayato's flexible body hides explosive power.
To imply that he is willing to listen, Hayato sets aside the 2 longswords on his back. Kurando silently watched as this happened.

Kurando was the first to break the silence.
「First off, I want to thank you for rescuing us.」(Kurando)
「……it is nothing. I hate monsters so rather than coming to the rescue, I came to kill the monsters…… and I do not want to see the country get destroyed.」(Hayato)

And then, silence.
Once again, Kurando speaks up.
「Why so quiet, do you not have anything to say? Why did you bother following me here? What——, are you here to kill me? You have become quite famous, is that not so?」(Kurando)
In this situation, it is as if Kurando is the villain here. While thinking this, Kurando showed a bitter smile.
「……I won't do something like that.」(Hayato)
Hayato said this as he looked Kurando in the eyes. Kurando tightly grips the notebook in his hand.
「Eh, am I not a cancer to you?」(Kurando)
「While I may not think so, those people might believe otherwise.」(Hayato)
This guy, the time during his enrolled into the school, he spreaded rumors about Kurando and then ended up stealing Kurando's ability. Kurando couldn't help but be bewildered by the person known as Hayato.
「For someone who had stolen my power, you sure are acting self-important. How do you plan to settle that matter?」(Kurando)

With this, Kurando really does seem to be the villain.
Hayato frowned.
「Sorry, there is nothing I can do about that. You see, compared to before, I'm a different person now. I can't offer you compensation.」(Hayato)
「Like I was saying, what do you plan to do? Will you apologize by dying if I told you to?」(Kurando)
「……won't die.」(Hayato)
With that, Hayato stayed silent. Barely 18 years old, he probably never thought to atone.
However, Kurando doesn't accept it.
While using an apology as a pretext to acquire information, Kurando begins to scheme.
「For now, tell me the details about the divine blessings you hold? As they say, there is no need to fear what you know.」(Kurando)
Of course, Kurando isn't going to outright say that he doesn't know the full extent of Hayato's power.
「What do you expect to do even if you knew?」(Hayato)
After saying this, Hayato told Kurando the full details about his divine blessings.

『Holy sword』: automatically raise the party's spirit power, able to materialize a sword made of light and increase affinity with light spirits while decrease affinity with dark spirits.
『Bond (精霊の最愛, ボニー, the spirits' beloved)』: increase affinity with all spirits, maryoku consumption reduced, maryoku power increase; able to see, touch, talk to and hear spirits. (T/N: now that is OP)

「After a bit of investigating, you should be able to grasp the idea.」(Hayato)
「Ehh, those are quite convenient divine blessings. So, is that thing at your waist a gun?」(Kurando)
Hayato showed a slightly bewildered expression.
「……that is correct. Except for my party, I haven't told anyone else about this.」(Hayato)
「I'm not criticizing you or anything…… are you using gunpowder?」(Kurando)
「No, the bullets are made from earth spirit magic and it is shot with fire spirit magic. While it is a sort of gun, it's more of a magic gun.」(Hayato)

And then, it became silent.
As his irritation with Hayato grows, Kurando decided to pry for a possible weakness.
「Umm sorry, this may sound petty, but it does not seem like you guys were searching for me.」(Kurando)
「About that……」(Hayato)
「From what I have heard from Akari, no one bothered to look for me.」(Kurando)
Kurando says this while acting indifferent.
After he heard this, Hayato gradually started talking.
「So, Akari was here? ……after the summoning, various things had happened. It wasn't all that peaceful. We had to go to the mountain to test out are power. Erica & Kaede and almost all of the students practiced their power there.」(Hayato)
「Ehh, that sounds fairly troublesome.」(Kurando)
Kurando gave him feedback. Hayato goes into detail.
「In the beginning, I was indifferent. However, by chance, I happened to defeat a man-eating bird and ended up saving a few student & some other people. On a whim, everyone attitude towards me changed. From then on, they started to depend on me. That made me glad. Afterward, they rely on me a few times more and I saved them. At some point, it became natural that I save them. It wasn't only students, but also the people of this world. This was something that I am able to do. And before I knew it, they stopped voicing their opinion; no they were unable to speak out.」(Hayato)
「Well, they could not simply say that Hero-sama is a thief. They all knew that you were the one protecting them. There was nothing they could do.」(Kurando)
Hayato glared at Kurando.
「Everyone can say whatever they want about me. What would you know, everyone was trying their best to live, you don't know how it was like. You don't know about our hardships. The adults that we became acquainted with; one day they are greeting us with a big smile, the next day they became a calm enemy. Can you understand how dreadful it was?」(Hayato)
Hayato took out his anger onto Kurando.
As Kurando felt his back freeze up, he continued to grasp the notebook.

「……I was summoned along with everyone else; what do you think happened to me afterward?」(Kurando)
Kurando couldn't help but say it.
He did desire to see a snowy mountain.
However, he didn't wish to stay on a snowy mountain.
Upon Kurando question, Hayato slightly trembled and his anger swayed.
「From what school campus was it from again? After being summoned here with no power and minimal daily necessities, how long do you think a person would last? Is this place not filled with acts such as taking hostages, ostracism, killing & murder and persecution? From what you have told me, are those people not good-for-nothings?」(Kurando)
Leaving the matter about his stolen ability aside, Kurando addresses the other matter.
Hayato hesitates; his anger is lost.
Aside from the summoned people to a certain degree, his companions had become more important to him.
「It is not like I have been living a carefree life either. I had no power to rely on. In order to not die, I studied magic like mad for half a year. If not, I would have frozen to death. I had to sleep with the warmth of dirt. While I had food, sooner or later it would have run out. I can vividly recall how my food gradually began to dwindle. What awaited me outside were bloodthirsty monsters. Compared to that, the hardships you and everyone else face in the safety of a town isn't much of a comparison. Every one of the hardships you mentioned, it all sounds more like boasting to me. You have chosen the wrong person to seek sympathy from. Besides, you who stole my power, do you really think you're qualified to be saying such things?」(Kurando)
Hayato rebutted by showing a bitter expression.
「Nevertheless, I have saved people; could you have done the same?!」(Hayato)
「How would I know. Maybe I could have; perhaps, I couldn't.」(Kurando)
「Your answer is too vague and irresponsible. I won't let someone like you speak ill of my companions!」(Hayato)
「Hmph, you won't allow it. Well then, what will you do, kill me?」(Kurando)
Hayato reaches for his long sword that he had laid aside.
For a second, he hesitated and then withdrawn his arm.

Kurando, who saw this, lets out a loud huff and then smiles.
When Hayato had stretched out his arm, he noticed Kurando's suspicious expression.
「Well, I wanted to hear what you had to say; however, in the end, it was trivial stuff. From here on, our conversation is to not be told to a third party,」 (Kurando)
Kurando continues.
「If information involving me becomes known and it would cause harm to myself or my acquaintances, if such a thing were to occur, no matter who they may be; for example, even if they happened to be a fellow summoned person—— I will kill them.」 (Kurando)
Grasping his longsword, Hayato stood up.
Kurando remains seated.
However, Hayato felt uneasy. For a moment, it was as if a poisonous insect appeared.
「……I won't let that happen.」 (Hayato)
「I don't believe I have said anything strange.」 (Kurando)
「You, there is something wrong with you. You have no concern for other people, that is wrong……」 (Hayato)
Understanding the situation, Kurando also stood up as he drew the kukuri katana from his waist.
「……do you think you can win?」 (Hayato)
「It is not a matter of if I can win, such a thing is irrelevant. No matter how small it may be, are bugs concerned with biting a person? Is it not the same? Not all wars are fought because victory was already decided.」 (Kurando)
「……you have no conscience.」 (Hayato)
As if he had gone mad, Kurando smiles.
「A conscience? How is a thief any different? Is that so, I have no conscience, huh? Then how about this, what if I self-destruct; would that not be appropriate?」 (Kurando)
Kurando opened the notebook he is holding.
Hayato sheathed his sword and then looked at Kurando with a doubtful expression.
「There is no such magic.」 (Hayato)

「Really? Are spirits not controlled by maryoku; do they not exist even in this barren land?」(Kurando)
「Do you think you have the maryoku to pull it off? I don't know about you, but I have『bond (spirits' beloved)』, something like that——」(Hayato)
「——yours, huh,」(Kurando)
With that single phrase, Hayato's expression changes and he draws his longsword.
「You,」(Hayato)
「Likewise. Those you have saved and your group outside could possibly die. Well, you might be able to deal with it. By the way, the moment you attack me, the autonomous magic will trigger and all of my maryoku will be released. Because of life spirits, I won't die right away. Also, I have already taken the time to scatter magic poison and toxic materials necessary for the autonomous magic.」(Kurando)
Saying so, Kurando dropped a belt at his feet.
There are many wooden test tube on the belt. At some point, it became more than being about Akari. This was the real deal.
「……*guh*」(Hayato)
Was it true or is it a lie? Hayato, who only knew a little about Kurando, wasn't sure.
Even if Kurando couldn't blow himself up, there was a chance that he could cause a more simple destruction by letting the spirits run wild. Hayato had personally experienced such an event; therefore, to prevent that he couldn't carelessly test Kurando's hand.
Even if Hayato was 99% sure it was not possible, he could not go against that 1% doubt.
「What do you plan to do?」(Hayato)
「Don't look at me with such a hateful expression; in the first place, you're the source.」(Kurando)
A groan leaked out of his mouth, as he glared at Kurando.
As I said from the beginning? Our acquaintances are not to be put in harms way. Don't leak information about me. As long as that doesn't happen, no one has to die. In other words, we will mutually pretend that the other doesn't exist.
Is that not convenient for you?」(Kurando)

Hayato gives Kurando yet another doubtful expression.
Kurando merely shows him a broad grin.

「I will never give you the chance to atone and I will never forgive you. While I may be unable to kill you, but that does not mean I will let you off. Don't ever forget it, that is mine revenge on to you.」(Kurando)

Kurando thought this was the most appropriate action to take. His ability can no longer be restored. Nothing can be done now.
Should he extort money from Hayato? Or, perhaps, kill him?
Such things, Kurando didn't have it in him to do so. While the notation is may be cliche, from an ethical point-of-view, the idea wasn't permitted.
When Hayato heard this he frowned and then sheathed his sword.
Hayato believed that Kurando had awoken to his conscience. In response, he stepped down.
However, if this were an act, Kurando would have been put in a hopeless situation.
There is no denying the possible that someone would read in between the lines as there is no legal authority to balance the agreement.

Without saying anything more, Hayato placed the 2 longswords on his back and exited the room within the cave.
Kurando confirmed that Hayato had left. And then, he simply sat there on the stone.
He was unable to kill him, as there was a debt. (T/N: as to who owns what, who knows)
Chances are, with a single swing of his sword, Hayato would have reaped Kurando's life.
However, against Hayato's overwhelming power, Kurando did not yield.
Just like that, Kurando let the notebook and kukuri katana drop from his hand.
He closed his eyes.

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As Hayato exited the cave, Erica & company and Oofuia & company stared at him.
「What are you waiting for, dismantle the spoils so we can return.」(Hayato)
Hayato says this as if nothing had happened.

Upon seeing his figure, Erica & company were relieved. They glimpsed at each other before going to dismantle their spoils.
Hayato did not help with the dismantling, instead, he approached Akari.
Without hesitation, he held out his hand to her.
「Will you not come go with? I will protect you.」(Hayato)
Akari looks at Hayato and then firmly shakes her head no.
「I will stop being a bother to other people; therefore, I cannot go with you Ichihara-kun. This is the choice that I have made.」(Akari)
Hayato thought about it for a little while before pulling back his hand.
「Is that so. There is still time before the retrial begins, in Sarewado. It is alright to change your mind.」(Hayato)
Having said this, he went help the others dismantle the spoils.

After Hayato had left the cave.
As for, Kurando.
Before anyone else thought about him, Yukishiro had disappeared into the cave.
Kurando didn't seem to be in a panic; he was safe.
That being the case, it was entrusted to Yukishiro.
Without it being said, everyone thought that was for the best.

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Kurando closed his eyes. As he lay there, he finally noticed the cold sweat that ran down his back.
"The results are in", he thought.
The suicide-bomb threat, the magic poison, and the negotiation; it is all over.
He walked a tightrope. It was nothing but insane.

Kurando had no choice but to play the madman.

If the situation called for it, just how far would he have descended into madness?
Even with nothing, while being a normal person, there is no excuse for insanity.
To win against an opponent stronger than oneself, one must take away their will to fight.
For him to reach that numbskull, he needed to be stronger.
If so, if there are no other options, there is no choice but to do something insane.

As it is for the sake of living.
But what if, the curtain was lowered and Kurando's act was seen through. What would have happened then?
To be laid bare, it would have been a miserable scene.
Just like that, Kurando fell backward and laid there on the ground. A self-deprecating smile appears on his face.

For awhile, Kurando stayed like this. Gradually, footsteps could be heard approaching from the cave's entrance.
The footsteps stopped near Kurando's head.
Pat
Yukishiro placed its paw on top of Kurando's head.
Slowly, bit by bit, it applied weight to its paw.
A sound is heard.
The pain became unbearable and Kurando slips out from under its paw.
As Kurando slipped away, Yukishiro showed a disappointed expression.
Kurando then sees Yukishiro's face close-up.
——Lick
Yukishiro licked Kurando.
And then, it slaps him on the side of his face with its tail.
Kurando is then captured by Yukishiro's tail.
While being dragged, Kurando is clumsily walking to the entrance.
「Wait, I'll walk, I will walk on my own.」(Kurando)
His cry echoes in the cave.

After a while passed, Kurando exited the cave.
Outside, Akari and Oofuia both have an apologetic expression; Makushiimu is acting the same as usual.
It is getting dark outside.
While thinking this, Kurando suggested that they go inside.
「For now, let us go inside, clean-up can wait until tomorrow.」(Kurando)
As if nothing had happened, it was the usual Kurando.
「……I think we should talk about it a little.」(Akari)
Akari muttered.
Kurando pretended not to hear her, being sleepy, he heads back to the cave.

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The next morning.

As soon as the day arrived, Kurando walked along the mountain’s slope.

He didn’t sense anything.

There was no birds chirping nor greenery to be found.

Although, he did find the corpses of 10 giant-sized Atorabashiku.

Both the mountain and forest had died.

– ToC –

Chapter 42: Descending the Mountain

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４２ー下山

Chapter 42 – Descending the Mountain

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Yakofu・Serugerii・Maizeeru (ヤコフ・セルゲリー・マイゼール).
The branch chief of the hunter association branch in Sarewado, Yakofu, had abused his authority and was then detained by Oofuia. During the middle of the monster raid (ekusupuroodo), when he had attempted to escape, he was eaten by a monster. His scattered remains were then later discovered by a staff member.

Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi (ザウル・ドミトール・ブラゴイ).
Moments before the monster raid (ekusupuroodo), Zauru was together with the Sarewado's branch chief, Yakofu. After receiving the obligatory request to dispatch, he disappeared. Presently, Zauru actions after the obligatory request was issued is being investigated.

Ivan・Minaefu (イヴァン・ミナエフ).
Yakofu・Serugerii・Maizeeru illegitimate child. From the perspective of the other staff member, as a blood relative, he has taken an active role in the Yakofu family's investigation. For the time being, the Yakofu family is under Oofuia's custody. Currently, he is serving as a temporary staff member assign to oversee the aftermath of the monster raid (ekusupuroodo).

The Sarewado staff members are presently managing the chief's duties.
From the view point of the branch chief, the most influence man in the village,

Yakofu did not allow for any objections. After this, in regards to the association's administration, the staff members will have more of an opinion.

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As Oofuia reads the report, she draws up official documents to sent to the office in headquarters.
She applied her hand to her forehead; with blurry eyes, she looked to the ceiling.
Two days have passed since the monsters were annihilated. Currently, the situation is how it would normally be in the aftermath of a monster raid (ekusupuroodo).
The damaged outer earth wall & moat, and houses are being restored.
The forest areas where the monsters destroyed are being surveyed.
For those who have died, their relatives are being contacted and funerals are being held.
The village that had survived the monster raid is busy as there was no time to waste.
Although, when night falls, here and there, the cries of children sobbing can be heard.
"Where is papa? He promised to return."
The voice of small children can be heard if one were to walk through the village.

When she heard the young child's voice, she recalled her broken promise.
Those bitter feelings re-surface.
Because of the emergency, the promise couldn't be kept.
And thus, the truth behind the other party.

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The following morning after the monster ekusupuroodo.
In the morning mist, Kurando figure can be seen. She called out to him.
「Good morning.」(Oofuia)
「Morning.」(Kurando)
Side by side, the two of them walked on the mountain's slope.
「Ah, here.」(Kurando)
Kurando handed Oofuia the dark green rings.
「This is……?」(Oofuia)
「I was expecting too much, right? To be able to hide my identity from him, in

reality, it was never a guarantee.」(Kurando)

The hero, Hayato・Ichihara is the antagonist.
At first glance, it merely seemed like they had simply gone into the cave together.
From what she surmised, Oofuia dare not ask Kurando. Chances are, he has been secluding himself on the mountain since 2 years ago. That would best match up with the time period in which Hayato and the others were summoned. But, the question is, what is their relationship?
One year ago, Hayato・Ichihara subjugated a dragon type monster; before that time, none of the other summoned people left. If something were to have happened between Hayato and Kurando, it must have occurred during the year following that monster subjugation.
However, Akari and Makushiimu had come into contact with Kurando 100 days prior to then. If one were to account for Hayato・Ichihara's activities, during that time, Kurando was on the Arerudouia mountain range. In that case, timewise, it would have been impossible.
Although, there is a possibility that on the school campus there is a secret communication method. But, that might not be the case as Hayato, for better or worse, is always thinking about the people around himself.
Then, when did they meet?
Kurando had secluded himself on the mountain. While he does insist on living as a hermit, he seemed to have known the hero Akari, who he sheltered. If one were to compare Akari, Kurando, and Hayato; they seem to share similar features.
In other words, it is best to assume he and Akari knew each other from before, that would make the most sense.
If so, that would means, since before the heroes were summoned, they 『previously』 were acquainted.
And thus, it is possible, Kurando and Hayato were enemies since before then. A story like this wouldn't be complete bullshit.

At best, it is a guess.
However, in the end, it is merely an assumption. There is no evidence, no concrete proof, and no way to verify it.
「It is alright, please keep it. It is true that I have broken my vow. There is no need

for you to return it.」(Oofuia)
「Is it, are you alright with trusting a person with an unknown background?」(Kurando)
「When it was possible to runaway, with few numbers, you along with the other women bought time by fighting off the monster ekusupuroodo. You didn't try to runway.」(Oofuia)
「I might take advantage of the women.」(Kurando)
「*Fufu*, well, as long as you protect them.」(Oofuia)
「Yukishiro might attack them.」(Kurando)
「Yukishiro-san wouldn't do something so pointless.」(Oofuia)
Kurando shows an expression that couldn't be described.
「Although, I haven't known you for long, you don't seem to be the type to initiate a crime. I have decided to believe in you.」(Oofuia)
「You trust me, but why?」(Kurando)
「……you are similar to the moon goddess; therefore, I will believe in you.」(Oofuia)
「……what, that was random.」(Kurando)
「You being accompanied by a large leopard…… but not only that.」(Oofuia)
「I don't know what you're talking about.」(Kurando)
「*Fufu*, beside the moon goddess was a bow, followed by a dagger, a grimoire, a large wolf, a large leopard, a large owl, a mantle, leather boots, a sliver spoon, and an arrow. In the night sky that was in the image of the goddess, from the nearest to the farthest, the stars received their names. You see, the hunter star ranks are named after the constellation.」(Oofuia)
Like a day-dreaming girl, while enjoying the conversation, Oofuia continued to talk.
「While she was a beautiful goddess; she was stubborn, eccentric, narrow-minded, and whimsical; she would only let her guard down around the magical beast in her care and women. She rejected the marriage proposals of the male gods, and she rejected the invitations of the female goddesses. And like that, she simply isolated herself. However she wasn't heartless, she would unconditionally help those she took notice of. Naturally, she would sever ties with those she deemed wicked and bring down judgment onto them.」(Oofuia)
「A goddess that governs human relationships, huh…… is this nothing more than

a myth?」(Kurando)
「Far in the distant past, god-like beings did exist. There have been ancient unknown relics such as building and powers that have been uncovered. Even to this day, although is it very rare, some people have been gifted with the power of an oracle. But still, while it can't be proven that the gods really did exist; nevertheless, I believe they did in fact existed.」(Oofuia)
「I don't have such great qualities.」(Kurando)
「That is fine. I'm placing my faith in you at my own convenience. Out of nowhere, a young man, who has secluded himself on a mountain, appeared being accompanied by a large leopard. For someone of my age, it made my heart pound. And then, after we met, you showed that you were not the type of person who would abandon women. Stubborn, eccentric, narrow-minded; it is difficult to say whether you are right or wrong.」(Oofuia)
「It is nothing like that.」(Kurando)
Oofuia shows a wry smile.
「Perhaps so. But, the way you didn't abandon them felt similar the actions of the moon goddess. Well, when it comes down to it, it is my delusion, an elderly person's dream. Let us leave it at that.」(Oofuia)
Kurando felt a bit lost as he drew back the dark green rings.
「However, please don't choose to end your life in the same way as the goddess. That would be too sad.」(Oofuia)
Before she knew it time passed, all the stars went out and in the end, alone, she vanished. Oofuia did not wish that the young man's last moments would be the same.
「We will see——」(Kurando)

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——Knock, knock

Oofuia awoke from her dream by the sound of someone knocking on the door. At some point, she had drifted off to sleep while sitting down.
Until the staff member from headquarters arrives, Oofuia is borrowing one room in the association's building and is acting as a mediator. This isn't permitted in bigger towns; however, for better or worst, this place is a rural area on the frontier.

Oofuia gives them permission to enter the room.
Arii excused herself, and then entered the room.
「The re-trial party has arrived.」 (Arii)
Acknowledging the information, Oofuia got up.
「Then, let us go met them.」 (Oofuia)

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The sun is above them.
As the temperature quickly raises, the day becomes warmer.
「Welcome, you have traveled a great distances. It may be noise and unsightly, thus, I ask for your forgiveness.」 (village chief)
As sweat flows from his brow, the village chief silently bows.
It is the same bearded old man for before that was together with the branch chief when Kurando had exterminated the Toukorusuka (mist starling).
「It is nothing, you are the ones' who had it rough. I send my condolences.」 (priest)
The middle age man, who is wearing a white colored priest attire, saw the village before him.
Behind the priest are 2 magical beast carts surrounded by battle-harden priest-cavalry mounted on war horses. The 2 magical beast carts are being towed by giant armored lizards.
This magical beast is able to travel long distances in arid regions and the hard armor on its back is tough enough to withstand the fangs of a wolf. While its downside is its soft abdomen, the magical beast is indispensable for long distance travels.
「Oh, if it is not Oofuia-dono. Did you arrive before us?」 (priest)
The middle-age priest who saw Oofuia standing behind the village chief called out to her.
「About that, having arrived early, I lead the fight against the monster ekusupuroodo. As I thought, these old bones had to endure it.」 (Oofuia)
「*Wahaha*, my lady, what are you saying, you're the『crimson elf』. As expected, you drove away the foolish ones from this village. So, how is the tyrannical branch chief fairing?」 (priest)
As the cavalry was the first to arrive, the information had already reached them.
「About that matter.」 (Oofuia)

「——I understand. It is best to hurry with the re-trial; the village has already suffered enough damage. Nothing more bad should happen.」(priest)
The middle-age priest erased his smile and whispered this in a low voice.
「Where is the girl, now?」(priest)
「She is in a safe place. She is in a day's reach from this village.」(Oofuia)
「I see, if Oofuia-dono says so then there must be no mistake. Anyhow, this special trial will be the first of its kind; this test case will be a『trial of truth』.」(priest)
The priest looked towards the magical beast cart.
Although no one else can see, inside the cart is the person who wields the『sythe of fact』, Aoi・Goutokuji (アオイ・ゴウトクジ).
「We have preparations to complete; therefore, is 3 days from now at 15:00, alright?」(priest)
「I see. All of the messengers for each country arrived this morning. I only need to contact them. I'm fine with the schedule, so is that alright with you village chief?」(Oofuia)
「Y-yes.」(village chief)
The village chief was wiping away his sweat with his bread and thus he was unable to nod.
It is a once-in-a-lifetime encounter; a high-ranking priest & the chief lady, and a messenger from each country had come to this village. He was exhausted and couldn't think of anything to say. The village chief, who was constantly oppressed by the branch chief, was in distress with merely having each countries' messengers here.
By the way, the group of priests only had the small church in the village to lodge at, while the messenger of each country had to borrow the houses of the villagers. The messengers' role here was nothing exaggerated; they were here to observe the hero's re-trial with their own eyes and then merely report the events to their respective country. They were not high-ranking officials.
And thus, the villagers and their family and their relatives lent their homes. The village chief received plenty of lodging fees. The families that endured the monster ekusupuroodo were expelled from there homes; however, it wasn't troubling as the money gained will be used to restore the village. It was a delicate matter for the villagers.

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Makushiimu had dashed there and learned that the re-trial party was half a day away.

The sky had already grown dark.

「I see. Understood.」(Akari)

Kurando happened to be nearby when Akari confirmed Makushiimu's report.

「Please make any prepares you might need before tomorrow morning. As there won't be any magical beast in the forest, we will be quickly making our way through.」(Makushiimu)

After saying this, while dragging his heavy feet, Makushiimu left.

「Well, you heard how it is. Thank you for letting me stay for so long.」(Akari)

Akari corrected her posture and then silently bowed.

「Well, various things happened, a bunch of it couldn't be helped. With this and that, not much changed anyways.」(Kurando)

Akari raised her head.

Her eyes are watery.

「Ah, do you mind drawing me a picture?」(Akari)

She made a sudden request.

「Ah, I don't draw guys.」(Kurando)

「Y-you're misunderstanding. I, I want you to draw me.」(Akari)

「……a nude portrait?」(Kurando)

Akari's face turned red.

「W-who would want such a thing? I'm asking you to draw a normal portrait.」(Akari)

「……I'm not particularly skilled, you know.」(Kurando)

「I'm not asking for a good drawing; I want a picture that Kurando-san has drawn.」(Akari)

Kurando thought about it for a little while before nodding. He took out his usual small brush & notebook and then brought out the ink.

By the fireplace, Kurando and Akari, the two quietly sat facing each other.

As he moved his brush, a faint sound can be heard.

While sitting still, Akari began to speak her feelings.

「……Kurando-san, do you not want to return?」(Akari)

Without stopping his brush, Kurando looked within himself for an answer.

「……perhaps, I'm cold-hearted. I don't think about returning much.」(Kurando)
「Not even a little bit?」(Akari)
「……I'm human too, sometimes I feeling like returning to my hometown. When that happens, I would either play the flute or draw. And then, the next day the sun would be shinning.」(Kurando)
「……is that so? I didn't. Unlike everyone else, I did not yearn to return home. But, it is not like I don't miss my family and friends. But, I don't think I would give anything up to be able to return, though.」(Akari)
「Is that not human enough. Just become you're cold-hearted it doesn't mean you have no sympathy.」(Kurando)
As Akari cried, she showed a smile on her face.
「How unlike you to be comforting.」(Akari)
「I'm not particularly trying to comfort you.」(Kurando)
「*Hmph*. Right. But, I'm the same as you Kurando-san; sometimes, I do think about returning. Immediately after being summoned, we were lead around by people we didn't know and we sometimes got hurt. During those times, I especially thought about it. However, after I was invited by Makushiimu-san, during that one year I spent as a hunter, I didn't think about as much.」(Akari)
「You have a hunter's spirit.」(Kurando)
「I also think so. But of course, even now, I think magical beasts and monsters are frightening. Although, during those moments that is when I feel the most alive. While there is no certainty, people make requests to hunt magical beast. For that, I express my gratitude. These things bring me happiness.」(Akari)
「It doesn't matter where you live as long as you can eat. There is nothing to feel ashamed about. To love one's country is another matter, though. Anyhow, a person only needs food and shelter, right? Well, something like that.」(Kurando)
Akari continued the conversation; Kurando nods in response as he moves his brush.
She rambles on.
「Kurando is your family not worried about you?」(Akari)
「Worried, hmm? I am a bachelor; I was never married. As for my parents…… well, it was an ordinary family. It was probably the only normal thing that happened for me.」(Kurando)
「How unfortunate.」(Akari)

「I’m not trying to belittle myself, but I couldn’t find permanent employment. I worked as a contracted dispatch security guard, a garbage collected, and then as a janitor. I spent three years working back-to-back as a contracted employee. If I wasn’t summoned here, I wonder what would I be doing now. It is not like I could make a living playing the flute or drawing pictures. First of all, I don’t have the skill. Pretty much, all the door were closed around me.」(Kurando)
Akari never had the chance to experience society, for she was summoned.
Although, on T.V. and in the newspaper the gloomy side of society couldn’t be seen, she still felt uneasy about the future.
For here onwards, what will happen to us, she though.
「Well, that doesn’t mean things here will be any different. However, it isn’t as narrow compared to there. Even so, I am glad to have come here. While I do feel regretful for the parents, although without us, they can retire without worry; therefore, I’m not too concerned.」(Kurando)
「Are we not similar, both our circumstance and our way of thinking.」(Akari)
「What are you saying. I’m 27 years old. I’m different from you.」(Kurando)
While Kurando dismissed it, Akari showed a slightly disappointed expression.
「Your preferences are still changing, that is natural. Your stop isn’t here, surely, you will become a good woman…… so don’t be fooled by a bad man.」(Kurando)
「Ah, hmph, I’m I suppose to take that as a compliment?」(Akari)
「……is it not trivial, how would I know.」(Kurando)
Being told it’s trivial, Akari caused a ruckus.
Kurando chuckled.
And just like that, their usual routine continued until the end.

「Well now, this is the Akari I know.」(Kurando)
「Why, why, why are you being difficult?」(Akari)
After she said this, Kurando detached a single sheet of paper with a knife and then handed the paper to Akari.
Having received the paper, Akari showed a tense expression.
「This, is a blank sheet of paper.」(Akari)
「Yep, it is blank, just like Akari’s potential…… right, right.」(Kurando)
「D-do it properly.」(Akari)
As he laughed, this time, Kurando handed over the real picture.
Akari, while being doubtful, as she received the picture, she glanced at it.

She sees a proper picture drawn with ink.
「Do you doubt me.」(Kurando)
「Who's fault do you think that is.」Akari
Saying so, Akari looked at the picture.

It is a black and white picture.
While the picture is detailed, at the same times, it is abstract.

A long stretching road can be seen as if it was an extending wilderness.
The road begins from a school's gate and ends with no destination as if the path continued on forever.
Her uniform had been cast aside and dumped by the roadside.
In the middle of the long road, from a profile view, a girl can be seen walking.
With a mature expression on her face, to where was she headed?

「Eh, why is it a nude drawing!」(Akari)
「It is my preference.」(Kurando)
Kurando puffs up his chest.
「*Th, th, th, this part is too small!*」(Akari)
「……I put a lot of consideration into it.」(Kurando)
「How rude…… you didn't, I was watching you!」(Akari)
Kurando folds his hand under his arms and then made a broad grin.
「Fi, fine fine, whatever.」(Akari)
After saying this—— Akari puts away the picture—— and she stands up.
「*Kukukuku*, now go, go. At this late hour, a young girl shouldn't be in a man's room.」(Kurando)
「*Uck*, you sound like an old man…… ah, that's right, I should tell you this Kurando-san.」(Akari)
Akari goes over to Kurando, who is sating down; she whispers something in his ear.
Kurando's eyes poped.
「*Fufu*, Kurando-san, I think this is the first time I seen you show that expression.」(Akari)
Saying this, Akari gave a single kiss onto Kurando's cheek.
It was a light kiss which one would wonder if there was physical contact or not.
And just like that, she exited the cave.

Kurando was left behind with a bitter smile on his face. He clicked his tongue and laid down.

From beginning to end, Yukishiro watched their ridiculousness play out before it loudly yawned and then closed its eyes.

◆◆◆

And thus, the next morning, Akari descended down the mountain.
Not even once did she turn around.
While viewing her face from the side, it was almost like a picture. It seems she appeared to have grown a little.

– ToC –

Chapter 43: Zauru

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４３ーザウル

Chapter 43 – Zauru

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

In the middle of the mountain, Akari and company carefully set up camp and stayed there for one night.

Although they could have rushed to the village and made it there by midnight, there was no need for them to hurry.

And thus, early morning.

From the forest, there were no sounds of birds chirping to be heard.

The forest had disappeared and was replaced by a wasteland. In the clearing, Sarewado village is in sight.

「——something is coming!」(Makushiimu)

Makushiimu brushed away the arrow that had come flying and then with his right fist he knocked down an incoming fireball. He was wearing a giantkind glove.

Upon hearing Makushiimu's voice, the women of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』immediately reacted.

They moved to protect Akari, surrounding her with a defensive formation.

【【*WWall vindur vindur*】】

【【*Air Wall*】】

【【【【*WWall vindur vindur*】】】】

【【【【*Air Wall*】】】】

Following in suit with Diantia, the women completed their formation.
Without exception, when the barrage of arrows and earth balls connected with the wall of wind, it was all deflected.
Whether it was an arrow or magic, Makushiimu & Diantia would intercept it.
From all four directions, the sound of horse hoofs could be heard.
「*Tsk*, what now mounted bandits?!」(Makushiimu)
From his back, Makushiimu fetched his large shield and hammer-ax.
「I will charge on ahead. Don't get too close to me, alright.」(Makushiimu)
Diantia acknowledged it by nodding before once more she began to recite magic.

【【*RRut áhaug af jarðvegi*】】
【【*Earth Stump*】】

【【【【*RRut áhaug af jarðvegi*】】】】
【【【【*Earth Stump*】】】】

Makushiimu avoided the magic that the women simultaneously casted.
Protruding from the ground, knee-high earth stumps made of hardened dirt spreads around them and encompassed the air wall.
These earth stumps were their countermeasure to impede the horses.
And thus, Makushiimu jumps in the direction opposite of the air wall.
In his hand, he carried a giantkind hammer-ax. It has a large guillotine-like blade and on the opposite side is a sturdy mass of iron.
It is a crudely made unbalance weapon that only those with the brute physical strength of the giantkind would be able to wield it. By no means was it a balanced weapon that a normal person would be able to swing straight.
Makushiimu springs forward leaving Akari and company at his rear.
Mounted on warhorses, people clothed in black appeared. Two of them dashed towards Makushiimu while the others headed for Akari.
「Is their target Akari? What an obvious turn of events.」(Makushiimu)
From Makushiimu's right, a strange looking pole weapon is positioned horizontally to mow him down.
A blunt yet thunderous sound rang out.
Makushiimu had ran toward the mounted bandit and in an instant he swept the horse horizontally from the side, mowing them down instead.

「Know that I am, Makushiimu・Daaru!」(Makushiimu)

His loud voice roars out across the wasteland.
The men dressed in black stayed silent. One by one, they tried to slip pass Makushiimu from the side.
However, Makushiimu didn't permit them; he brandished his hammer-ax.
With a single swing, the assailants would fall from their horse.
And just like that, Makushiimu swings his hammer-ax, while Akari and company within the defensive formation deals with the remaining assailants.
The earth stumps forced the assailants dressed in black to dismount. Rather than being blown off their horse, it was better to dismount.
Like a summer fever, heat can be seen emitting from Makushiimu as he swings his weapon from side to side.

On the opposite side of Makushiimu, Diantia and the others are fighting bravely.
Against the air wall and earth stump barrier, a few did breakthrough.
However, those people were brought down by arrows and throwing weapons.
Once more, Diantia released the string of her bow.
The assailants who had passed through the air wall were downed as an arrow pierced their head.
Whenever an assailant made it pass the arrows, they were stopped by either Maanya's flames or the other women's ax or spear.
In front of their eyes, the assailants fell.
Akari watched as this tragedy unfolded before her.
Those who are targeting her life, they are dying.
The assailants are merely facing the consequences of their actions; however, Akari's perspective, as she views this, is that of a person from modern-day Japan.
While Akari was with the united kingdom's hunter detachment force, 『White Spear』, she had never been attacked by thieves. For Akari, this was the first time she was directly attacked by people. (T/N: are you saying Kurando's an animal)
But still, Akari wanted to live, thus, dying was not an option.
Of her share that Akari had received from Kurando, she tightly grips the ice warrior's club in her hand.

A gap in their formation appeared and a lone assailant rushed towards Akari.
「A, Akari-san!」 (Diantia)
Akari grasps the club with both and raised it high above her head.

When Akari received the club, she had asked Kurando how to use it. And, he told her,
——I don't know.
Hearing that, she was dejected. However, afterward,
——but, well, there is one thing I do know. Imagine that the opponent is in front of you;『position the club above your head and then just swing downwards』. Every day, try some practice swings; 1,000 swings should do. Anyhow, there is nothing to lose by following the basics.
Hearing this, she continued doing so.
For 100 days, she swung the club 1,000 times until she had swung it 100,000 times.
Therefore, it will be alright.
And thus, Akari did as Oofuia had taught her and coiled the ice warrior's club with spirits by using maryoku.
Although Akari's affinity with ice spirits is not high, in the case of the club, Oofuia told her that affinity was unrelated.
Before her, the assailant thrust a short-sword towards her.
In that moment, like how she had practiced, Akari swings down the club as she conveys her intent to the ice spirits.
——POW
Just before the short-sword could reach her, the assailant was hit with an unexpected counter from Akari and robbed of their consciousness.
Diantia and the other women of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』were surprised as they watched Akari.
The club that had coated itself in ice hits the ground, leaving Akari breathing heavily.
When Akari was swinging down the club, it grew larger as it became coated with a massive block of ice; the added weight of the ice increased the velocity of the club's downward swing which caused its descending speed to exceeding the assailant's attack.
「Akari-san has not been defeated!」(Diantia)
Upon hearing Diantia's voice, the morale of the women of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』rose.

With Makushiimu's strong arms and『Maruuna・Niyuumu's』defensive

formation, the assailants were repelled.
「These are all the ones that are still breathing. Well, we more or less know that that guy was the one who hired these assassins. Meh, these guys were 2nd rate at best.」(Makushiimu)
With a thump, he finished lining up the assailants.
Of the assailants; about 10 of them escaped, 40 or so were left dead, and 5 survived.
Diantia lines up the 5 survivors on the bare ground. She blindfolds them, and then gags them so that they couldn't committing suicide.
For that reason, the assailants could not be interrogated.
The 5 survivors then had their feet bound with a magic formation.
「Now then, Akari shall we confirm their faces one at a time? Perhaps, you might have seen their face before.」(Diantia)
And thus, the moment the blindfold was undone,
Maryoku was transferred to the spirits and from the silent assailant, a fireball exploded.
【【*CCase út*】】
【【*Release*】】
At the same time, Diantia recited her magic.
As the assailant had hope, a fire was generated. And just like that, the assailant fainted without any information being obtained.
The circumstances were the same for the over 4 survivors.
Of course, Akari wasn't the one unfastening their blindfold. Everything had been left up to Diantia.
「……how did things end up this way?」(Akari)
Akari who witnessed this begun to question what had happened.
「That was the autonomous magic,『reisudamu (魔力解放, レイスダム, maryoku release)』. To be accurate, it is made from the combination of spirit magic and autonomous magic. Currently, they have exhausted their maryoku and have fainted.」(Diantia)
Akari still didn't understand.
「It is fortunate for us that the warhorses have remained.」(Diantia)
After this was said, the 5 survivors that had been tied up were loaded onto the horses.

「Should we hurry there?」(Diantia)
And thus, while traveling in a line, they headed for the village.

「『Reisudamu (maryoku release)』; the moment the target's maryoku is transferred to the spirits, the spirits will then begin to absorb up target's maryoku. The chief lady had developed this technique in order to incapacitate the person it is used on.」(Diantia)
「Absorbtion? Is the body not able to resist it?」(Akari)
「Not if they were the one who activated it. I am sure everyone has experienced it at least once when they first started out using spirit magic. When trying to command the spirits, your maryoku was drained and then you fainted. It follows the same principle.」(Diantia)
「Ah, that moment when you lose consciousness.」(Akari)
As Akari recalled the time she first started out, she couldn't help but make a wry smile.
「Without exception, everyone who practice spirit magic has experienced it as it is a part of the learning process. Of course, a mentor need to be present――」(Diantia)

Their group stopped moving; Diantia stopped her explanation and looked to the front.
From the front, another group is advancing towards them.
This time, it is a group of men fitted in complete sets of metal armor.
Among them, is Zauru.
Makushiimu, who is a part of the vanguard, stood to block the group's path.

「I am a military police chief from Tansuku, Arekusei・Ivuaaru・Buragoi (アレクセイ・イヴァール・ブラゴイ). There was a report of a group causing a disturbance outside the village and that Akari・Fijishiro was seen among them, as you can see.」(Arekusei)
While he wasn't as big as Makushiimu, a single large man equipped with plated armor took off their helmet and stood face to face against Makushiimu.
With his helmet off, his appears was that of a middle age man with blond rustic hair and he looked like a gorilla.
The military police's duty is to act as police officers and maintain order in the cities and villages.

「On our way to the village, we were attacked by these fellows, that's all.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu pointed to the assailants strapped to the warhorses.
「Is that so, thank you for the trouble. Did you happen to capture Akari・Fujishiro, afterward?」(Arekusei)
Arekusei showed a smile from ear to ear.
「Ahh? It has been decided that Akari will be brought to her trial of truth. That's how it is.」(Makushiimu)
「I don't know anything about this trial of truth, but I do know that she is on the wanted-list. Now then, hand her over.」(Arekusei)
Makushiimu moves to block Akari out of Arekusei's line-of-sight.
His expression became that of a menacing guardian deva.
「I won't be handing her over.」(Makushiimu)
「Eventhough you are the captain of the『White Spear』, are you planning on protecting this criminal? You do realize that is a problem, yes?」(Arekusei)
When Makushiimu heard this, he laughed scornfully.
「Then, as captain of the『White Spear』…… at this very moment, I quit!」(Makushiimu)
Arekusei furrows his brow.
「I don't know what happened between you and that child but,」(Arekusei)
「It has been on my mind for some time now, yup, a real pain. The timing is just right, I can knock you down without having to worry about anyone complaining.」(Makushiimu)
When Arekusei heard this, he happily smiled.
「……is that so? You plan to resist. All members, capture them!」(Arekusei)
Makushiimu smacked his lips and then stood ready.
The formally dressed military police officers, who are wearing a silver chest plate and wielding a spear, surrounded Makushiimu and the others.
Arekusei shrewdly turned around and left the matter to the military police.
「I see, do you think you can compete with me?」(Makushiimu)
Steam burst from his body as Makushiimu grasped his battle hammer with both hands.
With only that, the military police were overpowered, causing them to gradually retreat.

「What are you doing! That person is a rebel!」(Arekusei)
「——stop,」(Oofuia)
Arekusei hears a woman's voice from behind him.

Everyone's gaze focused in the direction behind Arekusei.
There stood Oofuia. Also, behind her, there was a middle age man.
「Oh may, Oofuia-dono. However, I'm in the middle of my duty. I ask that you wait.」(Arekusei)
While his words are polite, he obviously refused Oofuia's intervention.
「Akari-san is under my custody. So, should I still refrain from acting?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia's glare causes Arekusei to flinch.
The social standing of the chief lady of『Maruuna・Niyuumu』is different from that of a mere city military police chief.

「I don't know what you are talking about. This place is Dorugan. We are abiding by Dorugan law. Besides, when did『Maruuna・Niyuumu』commit acts of lawlessness? When did you gain such authority to do so?」(Zauru)
Zauru steps forward and covers for the military police chief.
「Akari-san is to be taken to trial. That is the truth or can you not understand?」(Oofuia)
Oofuia tried to persuade them.
「I don't know anything about a trial of truth. I don't accept such a shady thing in this country. Ridiculous. We don't have time for child's play.」(Zauru)
「You call it child's play; however, from the western provinces to; Arubaumu (アルバウム), Insuteka (インステカ), Yuurifurantsu (ユーリフランツ) and all the way to the island union of Ankuwaaru (アンクワール), each country has dispatched messengers.」(Oofuia)
「——our united kingdom of Erurodoria has officially formed an international judgment treaty.」(???)
For the first time, the man behind Oofuia speaks out.
「Bastard, who are you to say such irresponsible things——」(Zauru)
「——sorry for the delay. I'm a domestic affair investigator from Erurodoria's central government, Borus・Egooru・Gurinka (ボリス・エゴール・グリンカ).」
Zauru shows an expression that indicated he came across a bothersome pest.
「A person from Rorana, huh? Does the central government plan to go against the treaty with Dorugan's parliament——」(Zauru)

「——yes. However, the matter of the hero, Akari・Fujishiro undergoing the trial of truth was only approved after a majority vote was reached in the central government. And thus, this treaty was ratified.」(Borus)
「Don't fuck with me, no such notification came to the Dorugan parliament. The domestic treaty policy shouldn't be in effect yet——」(Zauru)
「——yes, it is as you said, this act is not being enforced and Dorugan's parliament has not been notified. While it supersedes regulations, it is restricted to and ends with the case of Akari・Fujishiro's trial of truth. It has already been permitted by the central government. This is not a plot to run away; to begin with, this trial of truth is a self-declared system. And as such, your assistance is not needed. Just to let you know, I will be monitoring and observing everything that is said and done.」(Borus)
While showing an uninterested smile, the man named Borus crushed Zauru's claims.
Zauru's face became distorted with wrath.
「Shit. You cowardly Roorana(s)! ——we will be taking those assailants. Surely you can't meddle in the affairs of Dorugan's military police!」(Zauru)
「No they cannot as they have no such authority to do so.」(Arekusei)
Those were the words of the military police chief.
The military police walk off with the horses.
Makushiimu looked over to Oofuia.
Oofuia shakes her head no.
「Tsk. Hey, leave the warhorses, they are ours.」(Makushiimu)
「It belongs to the assailants. We will be confiscating it——」(Zauru)
「In the case that a thief or a bandit is defeated outside a village or town, the belongings become the possession of the one who repelled them. While the age of adventures has pasted, the rule still remains. You should know that, or are you doing it on purpose?」(Makushiimu)
Hearing Makushiimu's words, Zauru smacked his lips.
「……carry them.」(Zauru)
On Zauru's order, the military police unloaded the assailants from the horses.
Five people are then carried in groups of 2.
「You bastards, I will remember this.」(Zauru)
Before leaving, Zauru left them with hateful parting words.

「You're too slow, Oofuia.」(Makushiimu)
「Sorry, the messengers for each country suddenly arrived one after another. Anyhow, when Arii informed us that Zauru was head this way with the military police, we rushed over here as soon as we could. It seems he was laying in wait with the military police outside the village.」(Oofuia)
「I apologize for the trouble, Makushiimu-san. Because we were late, you ended up coming into contact with Zauru. It must have been unpleasant for you.」(Borus)
The domestic affair investigator, Borus, bows his head as he apologizes.
From there, Oofuia moved closer to Makushiimu.
「A little while ago, I happened to overhear it; are you really going to quit being the captain of the『White Spear』?」(Oofuia)
Makushiimu smiled from ear to ear.
「It is true. I was the one who had invited Akari and got her involved in all of this. And this way, I will be in a better position to protect her. For here now, it doesn't matter what type of captain they will call me. Rather than some title, I will a simple hunter. In the first place, that was my nature.」(Makushiimu)
「Makushiimu-san——」(Akari)
「——this is something I decided on. It has nothing to do with obligation.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu went over to Akari and pats her head.
「So, you were serious.」(Oofuia)
「My, that will be quite troublesome.」(Borus)
The investigator's expression turned serious.
「Will you not reconsider——」(Borus)
「——nope. I will no longer continue that farce. There is nothing left to say and I'm not going to listen.」(Makushiimu)
In the face of Makushiimu's wrath, the investigator faltered.
「Stop it. Borus is an investigator from domestic affairs; he is only doing his job.」(Oofuia)
Makushiimu clicked his tongue and then drew back.
Oofuia looked towards Akari.
「Now, preparations are in order. Tomorrow at 15 o'clock, your innocence will supposedly be proven.」(Oofuia)

「Thank you for everything.」(Akari)
Akari silently bows.
「*Fufu*, it's alright. 『Maruuna・Niyuumu』 will always help women who have been wounded. You must be tired; go take your time and rest so you can prepare for tomorrow.」(Oofuia)

– ToC –

Chapter 44: Trial

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４４ー審判

Chapter 44 – Trial

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

On the third morning, the day of judgment arrived.

A dim light cuts through the darkness as Akari was awoken by the sound of someone knocking on the door of her room.

Akari had borrowed the room that was used by the night-watch.

「Akari-san, are you up?」(Oofuia)

Oofuia's voice passed through the door.

「……ah, yes, I'm getting up now.」(Akari)

Akari jumped out of bed and hurries to give a reply.

「Sorry for disturbing you so early in the morning. After you have gotten changed, please go to the branch chief's office.」(Oofuia)

As she tried to response while rushing to put her clothes on, Akari tumbled over the bed.

The domestic affair investigator had returned Akari's luggage back to her.

Therefore, the change of clothes she was wearing wasn't the baggy leather clothes Kurando had bought for her.

A full 2 day has yet to elapse since she had descended from the mountain. With a pleasant expression on her face, Akari tries to cram those leather tops and bottoms she had received into her suitcase.

She couldn't bring herself to throw them away.

「Um, good morning. It is good to see that you're safe.」(???)

Upon entering the branch chief's office, a woman stood up from the leather covered wooden sofa and warmingly called out to Akari.
「Aoi-senpai.」(Akari)
The person who holds the ability『Scythe of Fact』is, Gotokuji Aoi (豪徳寺葵). She is a bespectacled girl with black frame glasses, her hair is tied back in a bun and she has an hourglass figure. While Akari hasn't changed much, under Aoi's white priest attire, she was different from Akari; Aoi's breast had sufficiently expanded. Unlike Akari, Aoi wasn't a 2nd-year but rather she was a 3rd-year when she was summoned. Presently, Aoi is 20 years old.
「Thank you very much for coming all the way over here just for my sake.」(Akari)
Akari silently bows her head to Aoi.
「You haven't changed. After you left the magic academy, I hear you became a hunter and then got involved in something troublesome. What, do you think I am giving my kouhai (junior) preferential treatment? Well, I don't think it is too unreasonable. Besides, this will be the first special trial of its kind and the church doesn't think this is a bad thing so don't worry about it.」(Aoi)
Akari is invited to sit on the sofa.
Aoi tells Akari to lift her head and to stop restlessly looking around.
「Oofuia-dono made it so that we can have some privacy here.」(Aoi)
Akari and Aoi seated facing one another.
「It must have been quite a burden.」(Aoi)
「No, it wasn't that bad.」(Akari)
「There are many things I want to talk about, but let us leave that for later. Although it is quite early in the morning, shall we talk about the trial? Anyhow, there isn't must time left and not to mention, there has not been a similar case. It might not go smoothly so I ask that you bear with me when the time comes.」(Aoi)
「Yes, of course.」(Akari)
Akari obediently nods.
And then, she noticed Aoi showing a faint smile.
「There is no need to be so tense. The rules have not really changed much. Should I give you an explanation?」(Aoi)
One by one, Aoi explains it.
Akari earnestly listened and digested the information.

【Acticle 1・The Trial of Truth is an International Treaty that is effective in all ratified countries: without exception, no person associated with any of the ratified countries can object to this treaty.】
【Article 2・Trial of Truth, authority・enforcement: this trial holds no authority and cannot be legally enforced. Aside from the trial's result, all means of intervention・obligatory enforcement cannot be conducted.】(T/N: wording is strange, basically, I think it is saying the trial is voluntary and a person cannot be forced to undergo it)
【Article 3・Trial of Truth, related party notification: the trial cannot proceed without the defendant's consent.】
【Article 4・Trial of Truth, procedure: an inquiry with the defendant(s) must be held before the trial can take place.】
【Article 5・Trial of Truth, defense: what the defendant says will be regarded as their evidence, aside from that no other proof is necessary.】
【Article 6・Trial of Truth, normal cases & special cases: In normal cases, the defendant will be asked questions outside of the effective range of the『Scythe of Fact』. In special cases, the defendant will be asked questions while within the effective range of the『Scythe of Fact』and the verdict will be reported to each ratified country.】
【Article 7・ Trial of Truth, purpose: For now, the goal is to validate the judgment of the『Scythe of Fact』and establish the Trial of Truth. However if in the case that the trials are not accepted, future trial will be discontinued.】

「Well, this pretty much sums it up.」(Aoi)
「Okay.」(Akari)
Akari was earnestly paying attention.
「Diligent as alway, I see. Now, would you like to go over the contents of the trial, was what I was about to say; however, would you mind hearing me out for a moment?」(Aoi)
「Sure, what is it?」(Akari)
Aoi shows a wry smile.
「This, pertain to those who undergo the Trial of Truth. I want you to listen to me without getting angry.
For argument's sake. Let us assume that you do lie, in that case, you would die.」(Aoi)

And thus, Aoi continued.
「That would mean I became a person who had killed you. You see, it doesn't actually judge a person's crime; it merely kills those who lie.」(Aoi)
Akari catches her breath. She never realized it despite it being so simple.
Aoi shouldn't have to worry about Akari lying. It was inconsiderate of Akari to not notice the burden that weighs on Aoi's mind.
「So-sorry——」(Akari)
「——don't apologize. You shouldn't be. What I am trying to say is that I don't want to kill you, that's all. After having come to this world, I don't wish for the first person I kill to be a fellow summoned person such as yourself Akari, that would be unpleasant. This trial wasn't created for the hands of human beings.」(Aoi)
「You're right, the cause is this world. Senpai, I will believe in your decision. Therefore, I will not be killed by senpai.」(Akari)
Akari looked straight at Aoi.
「I take back my previous statement. You…… it seems you have changed quite a bit.」(Aoi)
「Hehehe, is that so?」(Akari)
「……you really have changed. You were not the type to laugh so freely, right?」(Aoi)
Saying this, Aoi broke out into a hearty laughter.
"Did she alway had that expression?", as Aoi thought this, she caressed Akari's face.
「I would like to hear more about the details concerning the trial.」(Akari)

For 2 hours, they talked about the details of the trial.
At some point in time, the morning sunlight began shining through the window in the branch chief's office.
「Well, let's end it here.」(Aoi)
「Yes. We have been talking for quite some time now.」(Akari)
「You know, this is the kind of work I wanted to do.」(Aoi)
「I see. For me, there is also something I want like to do.」(Akari)
「Oh, there is already something you have decided on? I see. Then when we have a chance next time, let us talk about.」(Aoi)
Akari laughs.

「Well, I will be excusing myself. See you later at the trial.」(Aoi)
Aoi stood up and then left the room.
There was no hesitation in her footsteps.

◆◆◆

And then, the fated time arrived.
Akari has on the same school uniform that she wore on the day she was summoned.
It is a charcoal gray blazer & white blouse with a checkered-patterned shirt; around the collar of the uniform is a red ribbon.
Akari realized how long ago it had been since the last time she wore this uniform.
Despite 2 years having passed, she is shocked to see how little her chest has grown.
「……」(Akari)
「Akari・Fujishiro-san, this way if you will……?」(receptionist)
Upon seeing Akari's discouraged appearance, the receptionist looked at her with a concerned expression.
「Ah, ex-excuse me.」(Akari)
She pulled opened the door of the old room and then headed to the chapel.
In this village, there is an old rundown chapel that belongs to the Church of Sandora. As there was no resident priest residing there, it would serve as a temporary haven for traveling priest(s). This small stone chapel is located in the corner of the village.
Akari arrived at the chapel. The small church (chapel) was nothing grand.
「Please, make your way inside when your name is called.」(receptionist)
Having told her so, the person who had guided Akari here walked off.
Akari stands in front of the large wooden door.
Her heart thumps loud and rapidly.
The beating of her heart pounds against her chest.
Not too long ago, it was quite hectic and she found it hard to believe. But, as she stands in front of chapel's large door, Akari suddenly felt the sense of reality returning to her. From behind the door, it became noisy.
Aoi was going over the Trial of Truth's rules and was demonstrating the『Scythe of Fact's』ability.
From the room, their voices still lingered in the air.

「Akari・Fujishiro, enter.」(Aoi)
Akari pushes against the door. It gradually starts to open, *creek*.
She was unable to calm down.
The door slowly opens and the opposite side comes into view.
Inside the chapel, the room is being illuminated by a dim light created from the surrounding candles.
On both sides, candlesticks are lined-up in a straight path from the door.
Near the base at the end, there is a window with the image of the sun priestess, beneath the image, there stood Aoi wearing a white robe.
While the clothes were slightly transparent, everything else was visible except for in the areas that shouldn't be shown.
"Is she not embarrassed?", Akari thought.
The door fully slides open.
From both sides of the room, there is a row of benches; altogether the benches are lined up in the shape of a fan. The representatives (messengers) from each nation are seated on the benches. Their eyes fall onto Akari.
Upon their gaze, Akari became even more nervous, causing her legs to tremble.
However, she holds down her urge to vomit. Akari takes one step forward.
She advances ahead.
As Akari made her way, she tried to walk as naturally as possible.
She continued on the straight path, making her way to where Aoi was standing.
One by one, their gaze focused on Akari.
Among them; there was Oofuia, Makushiimu, and Hayato & company. As expected, aside for Hayato's party member's, Erica & Kaede, the other summoned people are not present.
However, Akari didn't have the time to think about it.
It felt as if her heart was going to fly out of her mouth.
From the bottom of her heart, Akari was glad that this chapel was small.
It wasn't long before Akari reached Aoi's location.

Aoi, who understood how Akari felt, showed her a faint smile.
And thus, Akari raised her head and turned to face the surrounding gaze.
Of the people present, Akari had never seen some of them before.
There was no pause. Aoi played the role of a strict priest.
「From henceforth, let the special trial commence.」(Aoi)

Akari found this scene to be void of emotion.
Extending from the benches that were arranged in a fan-shape, there is a one-step elevated platform. Atop that platform, there is a single wooden foundation.
Aoi is standing there.
「First of all, I would like to confirm that you do willingly accept to undergo the trial. Akari・Fujishiro, raise your hand.」(Aoi)
The representatives of each country sees that Akari has raised her hand while standing before Aoi.
Without saying a word, Aoi then raised her hand high above her head.
There a bright light gathered.
A moment later, Aoi was grasping a large pure white sickle in her hand.
Aoi watches Akari's expression and then she opens her mouth to speak.

「Akari・Fujishiro, without being coerced nor without being threatened, do you undertake the Trial of Truth without the intentions of lying?」(Aoi)
Akari naturally replies as one would naturally breathe.
「——I will not lie.」(Akari)
And thus, the scythe is swung.
Akari closes her eyes.
The place is wrapped in silence.
「I have confirmed that you are not lying.」(Aoi)
Upon hearing this, Akari opened her eyes and looked at her arm.
There was no wound on her arm.
Akari glanced at the pure white scythe that had passed through her arm.
Although it was faint, there was a slight tremble.
Aoi then continued the trial without letting her emotions show on her face.
「Then, onward to the questioning——」(Aoi)

The sound of something being smashed rings out.
From behind the closed curtain of the window, they simultaneously smashed through the wooden window.
It is an attack.
Men clothed in black silently rushed towards them.
The assailants all went straight for Akari.
「To come here in broad daylight,」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu with his large build jumped in front of Akari, blocking their path. He

then dropped his fist on a nearby assailant.
The force causes the assailant to sink into the floor and collapse.
「Foolishness.」(Oofuia)
As Oofuia muttered this, several of the assailants fainted when earth from the ground was launched against their abdomen.
Inside the room, the figures of the scattered assailants can be seen trembling
One at a time, two at a time, the assailants collapse and goes silence.
「As long as I'm here, I won't let you lay a finger on my company.」(Hayato)
With amazing speed, Hayato suppresses the assailants that are inside the chapel one after another.
Whenever Hayato swung his black holy sword, the number of assailants would decrease.
The assailants were being easily repelled.

「——hey, who told you to attack us?」(Makushiimu)
An assailant who was left groaning on the ground, Makushiimu gripped the person by their head and lifted them up.
However, the assailant stayed silent.
「I see.」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu throws the assailant.
The person crashes against the door.
「——hey, who told you to attack us?」(Makushiimu)
The same is asked of a different assailant.
And just like before, the assailant's head is seized and their body is sent flying.
As they witness the fate of the others, the remaining assailants were left shivering.
「……Zauru. Za-Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi.」(assailant)
Upon hearing that name, the representatives became noisy and begun conversing among each other.
An aristocrat of their country had associated himself with 2nd-rate assassins.
For a fellow countryman aristocrat to act in such a matter, it would not be surprising if they were killed by an angry mob but there is no such authority to do so.
Although the messenger's (representatives) from the Kingdom of Erurodoriana and the domestic affair investigator didn't let it show on their face, in their heart

there was a raging storm.
With each country's representative present, it was disclosed that the person who caused this uproar was from this country. The authenticity was not the issue, but rather the problem was that it was exposed here of all places.
Although he may have been cornered, this a sink or swim gamble was a rather bad move even for Zauru.
Compared to falsifying a report against the hero, scheming to kill the hero has a completely different significance.
The Buragoi family will be ousted from the parliament. While the title of aristocrat is only in name, the family head will be forced to retire and the eldest son will take it over. The 3rd-son, Zauru, will be made to disappear. Afterward, he would be exiled and then secretly erased.
However, in the United Kingdom, such a thing was of no importance.
At a later date, this will become an international topic of concern for the United Kingdom.
The domestic affair investigator directs a bitter glare at Makushiimu.
A troublesome thing had come to light.

「Let us leave it at that. Right now we are in the middle of a trial.」(Oofuia)
Oofuia gave a sharp glance at Makushiimu.
Oofuia had realized Makushiimu's intention. The Buragoi family will receive punishment regardless of the authenticity of the matter.
Although the method was dirty, it wasn't like Makushiimu didn't understand this.
He just wanted to give their family a hard time.
They were the cause of him quitting the『White Spear』. And for that, he resented them.
Nevertheless, Makushiimu obeys Oofuia and lowers the assailant.
「What are the military police doing!」(Makushiimu)
Makushiimu angry roared and then, at last, the military police rushed in.
「Hurry up, we are still in the middle of the trial. Hurry it up, quickly arrest them and leave!」(Makushiimu)
He demands them to hurry up. The military police then quickly arrested the assailants and carried them outside the chapel.
Oofuia exchanged a glance with Arii who was standing near the smashed

window.
Arii nods, as she guessed Oofuia's intention.

The trial will continue without the window being returned to its former state.
Aoi and Akari proceed with the trial.
「Then shall we begin again, Akari・Fujishiro turn this way.」(Aoi)
Akari turns to the direction stated by Aoi.
The pure white scythe is affixed near Akari's neck.
With a light tug, her head would drop.
The representatives, who had moments ago witness an attack, they felt a sense of giddiness inside.

They watched as a scythe, taller than the girl herself, was placed close to girl's delicate neck.
As they observed this unbalanced scene, they couldn't take their eyes off of the girl nor the large scythe.

「Then, I will now begin the questioning.
First off, is there no mistake that you are the hero who possesses the『divine blessing』,『Radar Map』?」(Aoi)
「Yes, there is no mistake.」(Akari)
「As a hero to receive the effect of another hero's blessing, without exception, you must first accept this blessing. Do you accept judgment from the『Scythe of Fact』? If you tell a lie, this large scythe will become a scythe of iron and your head will be severed. Are you alright with that?」(Aoi)
「Yes, I have no problem with that.」(Akari)
Akari closed her eyes and does not watch the large scythe.
She was speaking the truth.

The scythe passed through Akari's slender neck.
When the representatives saw this, they held their breath.
The girl's neck was unharmed as the large white scythe merely passed through.
Supposedly, if the girl were to tell a single lie, it would be no joke as her head would then fall to the ground.
It is a fact that the large pure white scythe would be able to slice through a person as thick as a log.

Aoi without letting her concerns show, she continued.

「You who claims to be able to distinguish friend from foe, did you out of malice instigate the Atorabashiku to attack the white phantom subjugation party led by Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi?」(Aoi)
「No.」(Akari)

Once more, the large pure white scythe passed through Akari's neck.
The representatives couldn't bring themselves to look away.
As they observe the trial, they completely forgot about their skepticism.
While it did resemble a public execution, it wasn't nearly as dark and gloomy.
The trial itself gave off the impression of being an honest ceremony.

「Did you guide the white phantom subjugation party, led by Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi, with the intention to aggravate the Atorabashiku?」(Aoi)
「No.」(Akari)

The large pure white scythe passes through Akari's neck.
What the representatives see in front of them, is the eyeing catching image of an innocent and brave girl.
They knew of the situation.
Of course, they knew of their country's behind the scene circumstances.
Similar cases had also happened in their own country and certainly, there are misgivings.
However, in the heat of the moment, they forget such things.

「Was it due to your error that, the white phantom subjugation party led by Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi, had resulted in the Atorabashiku being enticed?」(Aoi)
「No, I tried to stop them, but they didn't listen.」(Akari)

The large pure white scythe passed through Akari's neck.
Sighs of relief can be heard from the audience (people inside the chapel).
The representatives sympathized with the tragic heroine. Although she held the title of hero, the girl was used as a political tool in the country's affairs. Surely, she must be the heroine.

「Alright. In this Trial of Truth, Akari・Fujishiro has been proven to be not guilty in the case of having instigated the Atorabashiku against the white phantom subjugation party lead by Zauru・Domitooru・Buragoi.」(Aoi)

Akari takes a deep breath.
At last, she has proven her innocence.
However, it felt as if something was missings.

「Akari,」(???)
A man calls out to Akari.
Akari watched as Hayato stood up from the bench.
The audience grew noisy.
The most famous of the heroes had appeared before the tragic heroine.
In their minds, the audience were expecting something.

「Come with me! I will protect you!」(Hayato)
Hayato acts on the audience's irresponsible expectation.
Without losing her way, Akari looked at Hayato's hand which he had presented to her.
The chapel had already become a stage for a grand story.
Yes, it is a magnificent story. And thus the conclusion commences.
They watch her every action.

「I'm sorry.」(Akari)

Akari silently lowered her head.
The representatives were hit with a surprise.

「This has nothing to do with policies or politics. I want to protect you.」(Hayato)
Upon hearing his words, Akari slowly raises her head.
And then without taking Hayato's hand, she walked off to the side.
She turns toward the representatives and then opens her mouth to speak.

「I, Akari・Fujishiro will enter priesthood.」(Akari)

Those in the audience (inside the chapel) fell silent.
In front of their eyes, Hayato and the representatives try to come to term with what had happened.
Makushiimu stops himself from bursting out laughing while Oofuia shows a wry smile.

「I will join『Maruuna・Nyuumu』and serve by the goddess's side.」(Akari)

Gradually, the reality of her words reached everyone here.
In Hayato's presence, silently whispers are heard. "Religion is no good, Akari is saying she will throw her life away, Akari shouldn't agree to this". (T/N: might be wrong)
From behind them, Aoi asked her.
「Why, will『Maruuna・Nyuumu』keep you safe, is that how it is?」(Aoi)
Akari smiles and denies it.
「That isn't it. Aoi-senpai, it is something I have decided for myself.『Maruuna・Nyuumu』is where I belong. I have already received Oofuia's permission.」(Akari)
Aoi saw Akari's determined expression and then understood.
It was something Akari had decided on her own, there was nothing more to say.

From the representatives perspective, the story had changed to the tragic heroine entering priesthood. "What did this courageous girl say she would do?", they thought.
The girl who is before them, she was able to stand on her own although she was not a strong independent woman, perhaps may be so.
And with that, the representatives felt as if they had awoken from a dream.

As for the domestic affair investigator, who watched this unfold, he was greatly perplexed.
The hero was attacked although there were so many representative present; not to mention, it was true that the hero was used as a political tool. And lastly, it concluded with the hero entering priesthood. As to how much of a political disgrace it will become, it's unknown.

During all of the commotion after Akari's declaration of priesthood, the sound of lightning striking was heard from outside the chapel.
However, outside wasn't gloomy as the weather was clear with no chance of thunder.

All members were on guard for another possible attack to happen.
However, nothing occurred.

At that moment, they noticed Hayato's party running off.
When Akari saw Hayato going, she too started running.
In addition Makushiimu, Oofuia and also Aoi followed after them.

– ToC –

Chapter 45: Rampage ①

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４５ー暴走①

Chapter 45 – Rampage ①

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

Kurando proudly made an evil smile.

And then, laughter escapes from his throat.

When Kurando imagined Akari turning down Hayato, it made him want to grin.

That night, just before the kiss, Akari had whispered to Kurando that she would be immediately joining up with『Maruuna・Niyuumu』and entering priesthood after the Trial of Truth ended.

With each country's messenger (representative) being present, there is no way the United Kingdom of Erurodoriana can overturn the verdict.

Akari had anticipated on this.

Although, that wasn't her only objective.

She had also expected that Hayato would be there at the chapel. Anyhow, that guy is well-known to want to carry the burdens of all his classmate, without fail.

And thus, his idiocy would be exposed right in front of the representatives from each country.

As Kurando thought this, his facial muscles relaxed.

About what Akari had said, an old memory flashed in his mind; Kurando recalled jokingly saying to her,「how about entering priesthood」.

For Akari to say it was her idea, as Kurando thought this, it only furthered his good mood.

「*Kukuku, uwhahahaha*」(Kurando)

Yukishiro, who watched as Kurando broke out into an eerie laughter, showed an expression that seemed to imply it gave up on dealing with the current state of affairs.
On occasion, its partner's personality would worsen.
Because the person seemed to be mentally ill, Yukishiro had no choice but to give up.
No matter how one looks at it, the current Kurando is a complete evil villain.

Presently, Kurando and Yukishiro are camping by the forest.
The evening sun was in the process of setting.
「——shall we get going?」(Kurando)
Having finished laughing, Kurando calls out to Yukishiro.
For Kurando and Yukishiro, how dark it was at night was irrelevant. If anything, it was more convenient as they would attract less attention.

Kurando had abandoned the white phantom's cave atop the Arerudouria mountain range to go on a journey.
When they were discussing it, surprisingly, Yukishiro did not dislike the idea.
The monsters had caused the forest life to die out. There was no longer game to hunt. If there is no prey, territory by itself is meaningless.
Not to mention, now that the Atorabashiku are gone, people are bound to venture into the mountains. The situation is quite sad if one thinks about it.
Anyhow, Yukishiro was onboard with Kurando's suggestion.
As for Kurando's identity, his dog tag is proof that he is a hunter and the item that Oofuia had given him could also serve as his backup identification.
And as for Yukishiro, the illusion autonomous magic could be used to disguised it as a black panther.
Now that all the conditions have been met for their journey, next, he merely needs to secure a place to live.

As they prepared to departure from the campsite, Yukishiro suddenly puts itself on guard and then scowls at the dark spot.
Yukishiro's growl elevates and it bares its fangs, power accumulates in its legs.

「……troublesome, magical beast.」(???)

From the darkness, a figure appeared.
A girl with a pair of black rabbit ears, who was clothed in black, stood there.

In each hand, she held a knife.
「If I recall…… are you not one of Hayato's party member? Why are you here…… you're probably not here to talk, I assume?」(Kurando)
Kurando puts down his luggage, draws the kukri katana from his side, fastens his shield and took out his notebook.
「……for Hayato's sake, die.」(???)
In the silent darkness; Kurando, Yukishiro, and the black rabbit beastman girl engaged in combat——

——*Zap*

A red lightning cuts through the darkness and directly hits Kurando and Yukishiro.

「——for Hayato's sake, die!」(???)

Erica got down from the gap in between the trees.
The scarlet red static electricity emitting from Erica's boots can be seen through the darkness.

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(Black Rabbit Beastwoman's perspective)
Showing a cold expression, the black rabbit beastman girl headed towards where the lightning had fallen.
Even if that man doesn't have his ability, the person is still a hero.
Erica is also a hero, so her power should be that person's equal.
The black rabbit beastman girl glanced at Erica.
Erica is slightly overexcited, his face is flushed, and he is breathing heavily.
That can't be helped.
The person has killed someone from their home world. Besides, I'm different from him, I am used to killing people. But overall, it went well and our performance was good.
Erica who never disobeyed Hayato, he never thought to rely on me and wage a battle.
I wasn't particularly close with Erica; Hayato was the center that tied us together, that was all.
And thus, they ended up depending on one another.

While thinking this, the black rabbit beastman girl noticed that she herself had made a faint smile.

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After that day, 4 days passed.
When that girl called Akari was found, Hayato seemed to be brooding over something.
To be accurate, after he had entered the cave with that unknown man, Hayato seemed to be distracted as if he was looking at something in the distance.
The black rabbit beastman girl motionlessly watched Hayato from the shadows.
“What can I do for Hayato”, she thought.
「Kuu (クー), do you have a moment?」(Erica)
At that time, Erica called out to her.
The name Kuu was something she had received from Hayato.
Kuu nods and then accompanied Erica.

「By no means should you tell anyone what will be said here, and I mean absolutely none!」(Erica)
Erica said this to Kuu with a serious expression.
Kuu was unaware that Erica was always fawning over Hayato.
While being slightly surprised by how serious Erica was acting, Kuu gave her usual calm nod.
「Well, you probably wouldn’t but, by no means should you tell Hayato, that would not be good.」(Erica)
And thus, Erica told her about Hayato’s connection with that janitor man.

“Why did Erica tell this to me?”, Kuu thought.
Because Hayato himself had already decided to leave the matter aside, it would not have done much for Erica to consult Kaeda or Fon.
In the first place, they didn’t trust Arisu. Erica and Kuu believed that the person who had performed the summoning, Arisu, was an Arubaumu (アルバウム) spy.

「That is how it is. What do you think we should do?」(Erica)
Although Kuu is a girl, she who knew of a person’s malice and what goes on behind the scene.
Likewise, she was raised to kill by an assassin organization.
Erica who couldn’t think of anything had decided to consult the matter with Kuu.

「……must, kill.」(Kuu)
Erica catches his breath.
「Th, that is a bit……」(Erica)
There was no hesitation in Kuu's red colored eyes.
「……he, can bring harm to Hayato……, that's possible…… he can be used to, Hayato's downfall…… unpleasant. Fellow hero, no exceptions, his…… existence, Hayato's…… obstacle.」(Kuu)
「Kuu, what do you think about Hayato having stolen the power?」(Erica)
「……nothing at all.」(Kuu)
「Nothing, you don't condemn him for stealing it?」(Erica)
「……Hayato, saved Kuu. Not……, that other man.」(Kuu)
Erica thought about it.
「……you're right. When I was cheated, Hayato was the one who saved me, not that guy.」(Erica)
「……Kuu, will. Erica, not…… necessary.」(Kuu)
Erica quietly stared at Kuu.
「……I'm also in. I will do anything for Hayato. At that time, I had already decided on that.」(Erica)
The two nod.

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If it is for Hayato's sake, they were willing to play the role of a villain.
While being intoxicated with such feelings, in addition to nervousness, it distracted Erica from feeling guilty.

The dust cloud created from the scarlet lightning starts to clear away.

Suddenly in the darkness, something jumps out from the dust.

Erica instantly puts up his shield.
The shield comes into contact with the flying object.
"Don't endure it, deflect it, that method is better suited from Erica's divine blessing."
Erica recalled what Hayato had said.
In desperation, he tries to negate the impact on his shield by kicking the ground with his boots of scarlet lightning, letting the force slide off to the side.

Yukishiro had leaped through the dust cloud; while having coated itself in earth & ice, Yukishiro flew passed Erica who was clad in his『divine blessing』,『Twilight Boots (朱雷のブーツ, トワイライトブーツ, boots of scarlet lightning)』.
「You!」(Erica)
The attack was not a failure as the impact from the shield sent a dull pain running through Erica's shoulder.
However, the shield made from dragon bones was undamaged, displaying that it wasn't just for show.
Erica looked over his shoulder.

Erica having his stance broken and his back exposed, Yukishiro scowls at him from behind.
For Yukishiro, lightning is regarded as an enemy.
It could not forget the day its parent was defeated.
Whenever it sees lightning or lightning being used, it would feel deep sorrow and become agitated.
However, Yukishiro didn't hold a grudge.
Those who are weak die.
That is the sort of world that Yukishiro lives in.
If it did have resentment, it would be towards Akari and Makushiimu.
Towards Akari, such feeling did not surface because she appears weak.
But, in Makushiimu case, the feeling was different.
At the mere sight of him, Yukishiro's fur would stand on ends.
However, even then, there was no hate.
The person's strength might rival or might even exceed its birth parent's.
When thinking of it that way, such feeling could almost not be suppressed.
And compared to then, its present self is still no match and it found that vexing, that was all.
——however, lightning is a different matter.
That sound it hears, that light it sees, Yukishiro found it to be irritating and enraging.
Kurando had noticed this and thus he didn't make use of lightning, paying it no mind as Yukishiro could not deal with lightning.
Nevertheless, Yukishiro couldn't stomach that the person standing before it is pointing lightning in its direction.

Yukishiro glared at Erica, who had turned around.

——*Gurrroooh*
Come, it beckons.

Yukishiro gave a provoking howl.
In anger, Erica kicks the ground with his『Twilight Boots』and springs toward Yukishiro at high-speed.

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From the location where the first lightning struck, Kurando stood up.
「Uhh, unbelievable, that divine blessing bastard.」(Kurando)
Despite the degree of the lightning strike, there wasn't a single wound on Kurando.
As he had thought, divine blessings have no effect on other summoned people.
Clashing, Kurando turns to look in the direct of noise. There he saw Erica and Yukishiro facing off.
From what he can see, it seems alright to entrust Erica to Yukishiro as it had a strange fixation on lightning. Although affinity wise, Kurando should have dealt with it but he chooses to let Yukishiro do as it pleased.
Above all, Kurando needed to focus on his own situation.

The darkness spreads in front of him.
Before his eyes, only darkness is reflected.
Kurando tries firing off some light spirits.
For a split second, he was able to see the trees through the darkness; however, the light spirits were immediately painted over with black.
After seeing this vicious cycle repeating, he gave up on trying to use light spirit magic.
As it is night-time, there are few light spirits and capturing some proved difficult.
Next, he tried searching through the darkness.
This too had no results.
Apparently, the opposing party is a dark spirit user.
Although Kurando can't see, the opposing party probably could.
Yukishiro never had to worry about the darkness. As for Erica, the electromagnetic waves emitting from his body probably allows him to sense his surroundings. And the assassin who is able to melt into the darkness, naturally,

she wasn’t hindered by it.
「How did this happen?」(Kurando)
Kurando grieves at the fact that he is being targeted by an assassin.
However, he understood the reason.
In any case, he just has to have faith in his own abilities.
When Kurando was in Japan, he was not skillful. But, it is not like things drastically improve for him after coming to this world, either.
His degree of power is equivalent to a soldier; however, he doesn’t have the known how of one. Kurando shows wry smile as this was basically something he wasn’t suited for.
Even so, he couldn’t afford to die here.
Then, Kurando has no choice but to do it.
Kurando opens the notebook he is holding in his hand.

Without warning, a large knife is thrust towards the back of Kurando’s neck.
「……」(Kuu)
In an instant, from the opposite side, another knife moves to slit his throat.

Neither of it reached Kurando.
However, Kurando perceived that his physical barriers were destroyed. It felt similar to glass shattering.
Kurando swings his kukri katana upwards.
The assassin silently avoids it before melting into the darkness and vanishing.

Kurando restored his barrier.
In that moment, he felt a single attack on his thigh and then his side, again his physical barriers are broken.
With all his strength, he swings the kukri katana in the direction the attack came from.
However, it was a complete miss.

Kurando raises his barrier once more.
And yet again, he was hit by 2 attacks.
Kurando swings his kukri katana but no hit connects.
This scenario repeated for awhile.

Around the 10th cycle, Kuu’s face slightly appeared from the darkness.
「What…… are you?」(Kuu)

No matter how many times the physical barriers were broken, they would instant be restored.
She did indeed destroy 2 barriers.
"……two", she thought.
Kuu realized something.
But, it merely furthered her question.
「Who knows. If I had to say…… I'm nothing special, or something like that.」(Kurando)
Being made a fool of, Kuu gets angry but then immediately suppressed her emotions.
Kuu reassures herself. "I only need to think about cutting the target, other thoughts are unnecessary", she thought.
"If the number of attacks are not enough, I just have to increase it", Kuu thought.

At Kurando's back: from the back of his leg to his thigh, his side, and his neck; she does a 4 hit combo with the intent to definitely break through his barrier.
"When he bleeds out, I will be able to give him a fatally wound to the neck", she thought.
Kurando was truly unable to perceive the attack.

Gradually, the number of attacks increased along with the number of wounds he received.
Although he is bleeding from his wounds, none of them were fatal.
Kurando didn't have the time to perform medical treatment on himself.
Every time he restored his barrier, an attack would follow.
Kuu was aiming at the gaps between his armor with sharp precision.
(Kuu's perspective)
Although questions about the enemy begin to pile up, Kuu continues to cut.
Her slashes connect but the target shows no signs of being affect by the magic poison.
The magic square (circle) on Kuu weapon gives it a coating of magic poison. It is a hidden technology used by the assassination organization she was with. Kuu had personally confirmed its effectiveness.
Unbelievable, the target has developed a 2 layer barrier.
He is using both life spirit magic and autonomous magic.

For this to happen in the middle combat, unbelievable. Huh, the magic poison doesn't seem to be having any effect; is there a 3rd barrier?
Kuu tries to confirm it.

The wind was gathered and compressed before it was projected at the target.

The moment he heard his barriers being smashed, Kurando noticed the invisible attack that he had received.
"Was that compressed wind", he thought
To be accurate, the compressed wind that was thrown could perhaps be called an air hammer.
While thinking this, Kurando immediately tries to restore his barriers.

And then, another incoming air hammer approaches.
The defenseless Kurando receives the hit.
As expected, the barrier fell from taking several attacks.
Although, he managed to block 2 of the remaining blows with his shield.
Upon receiving those several hits, it felt like his head was going to be ripped off and the force of the impact nearly made him vomit. Kurando groans as he gets back up.

As if she had encountered a rare animal, Kuu stared at her target.
Her target is able to use life spirit magic, autonomous magic, and he is able to continuously put up a 4 layer-physical・magic barrier.
Not only does the target has enough supply of maryoku to constantly repair the life spirit magic barrier, but the barrier itself has zero blind spots as it covers the entire surface of his body.
And though, even if the autonomous magic barrier is an original magic, for it to be restored after being destroyed, a magic square (circle) and incantation should be required.
Kuu couldn't comprehend it.
The 4 layer barrier could simply be described as a demonstration of pure skill.
She didn't have a clue as to how he was able to instantly restore the magic barriers.
For a moment she forcibly thought about how the autonomous magic was developed.
But, she couldn't think about it forever. One way or another she has to do

something.
That being so, Kuu has to find a way to break through it.

Then that being the case,
Kuu melts into the darkness, erasing her presence and erasing her emotions.
Kurando was staggering to his feet while surveying his surroundings. He does not seem to perceive her location.
While cloaked in darkness, Kuu moves to Kurando back.
In an instant, she unleashes 4 attacks.
She slashes at the neck, the heart, the side, and backside; while simultaneously, she threw compressed air in the exact same locations.
There was a reaction.
The 4 layer barrier was destroyed.
Kurando desperately swings, doing a sideway sweep; however, Kuu smoothly dodges and then steps in toward Kurando's chest.
Just like that, she does a spinning rotation, using that momentum, she thrust the knife.
The location didn't matter.
She feels the sensation of digging into flesh as she heard the number of groans begin to pile up.
And then an additional 2 attacks.
Another knife goes for his neck——
「——*fufu*, I finally caught you.」(Kurando)
When Kuu tried to stab him from behind, her arm was grabbed.
At some point, Kurando had discarded his kukri katana and then captured Kuu with his free hand.
However, Kuu silently twists her body along with the arm Kurando's was holding her with.
「*Guhh!*」(Kurando)
While standing, Kurando was seized like that.
He falls to his knees in agony.
His arm & shoulder is in extreme pain.
「……farewell.」(Kuu)
There is no barrier up.
Kuu moves to gouge Kurando with the knife.

「You know.」(Kurando)
However, the knife was stopped a small margin from Kurando's neck.
Although one of his arms was disabled, Kurando opened the notebook with the other arm.

An arm made of earth had stopped the knife.
And then, Kuu vision's became hazy. She detects the presence of dark spirits.
However, she ignored her loss of vision.
「Something of this degree!」(Kuu)
In the instant Kuu tried to destroyed the earth hand by using wind spirits, she felt the spirits dissipate and her consciousness fading from her.

「*Fufu*, it is over… ah.」(Kurando)
With no strength left, Kuu to crumbled to the ground with her seized arm being twisted in an odd direction.
「……wh-hat, did, you do」(Kuu)
Kurando is surprised by Kuu's voice.
「You're still conscious, huh?」(Kurando)
He couldn't have her reviving and launching a surprise attack.
Without giving her a chance to reply, just like that, Kurando beats the defenseless girl using the giant's glove.
Kapow, kapow, kapow. It is an unbearable scene to watch as he repeatedly slams his fist into the helpless girl's abdomen.
In addition, while she lays there on the ground, an earth stake magic is activated.
The girl's body thrashes as a stake made of earth pierces her legs several times.
Kurando showed an uninterested expression as he carried this task out.
Sure enough, the girl's power to fight back had been snatched away.
And then, he began to recite a magic.

【【*ЕЕсть форма для бесфнной власти, ВВласть форвать без власти; Kwusutora*】】
「【【*Power heed my command, take form, power harden and take shape, maryoku thorn; Kwusutora (クゥストラ)*】】」(Kurando)

With that, the magic activated and flowed to the medium, an arrow, Kurando was holding.
Without hesitation, Kurando stabs Kuu's lung with that arrow.

「……*ahguu*」(Kuu)
「You should have a bit of maryoku left, but know that this arrow has a complex shape; any pointless actions will only hurt you. If you try to heal yourself, I will twist this arrow. So, don't try anything and just stay silent.」(Kurando)

——*Gurr*
At some point in time, Yukishiro had arrived nearby.
It was holding Erica in its mouth by the nape of his neck, displaying its flawless victory.
Yukishiro was showing off, similar to how a cat would show off a bug it managed to catch.

In the first place, lightning has no effective against Yukishiro. Erica didn't have a chance of winning.
Simply put.
Because Yukishiro had a fixation towards lightning, Kurando used his knowledge to teach it spirit magic.
Being accustomed to the Atorabashiku's skill, Yukishiro effortlessly learned the ability.
It could recall its parent's form and on a smaller scale, Yukishiro could do the same.
As Kurando suggested, it clads itself in ice and then it simply binds everything together with small earth stones.
And thus, the lightning would be grounded by the earth coating.
As a result; Yukishiro was able to coat its fur in ice while the ice & earth would be slightly separated, creating a snake-like flow.
And then, when lightning comes into contact with the earth-snake coating, the electric current would be grounded.
It seems Yukishiro was unable to utilize earth-armor, an Atorabashiku's greatest defensive ability.
Perhaps, this has something to do with a magical beast's spirit affinity.

Yukishiro brings Erica over to Kurando, for the person to receive the same treatment.
A villain must not be negligent.
Kurando won't relax his guard even in the presence of a fellow hero.

Although in Erica case, there was no for『Reisudamu』as his maryoku is nearly dry.
Erica's leather armor is stripped off and then Kurando stabs a knife into the person's lung.
「*Ahguu*」(Erica)
Being faintly consciousness, Erica groaned.
But, Kurando paid it no mind.
He looks at his notebook and then recites a magic.
【【*EEitur af mörgum PPoison óteljandi, það er ekki ætlað að ógna lífsanda. SSjá hvað er niðuðan er, EEnd, EEftirmáli, Nneitun non-að fá hann deyja. Við verðum að, spyrja er ánauð verða eift hans. ég hafa spurt; Eishiibudigu*】】
【【*Numerous poisons, countless poisons, to be not life threatening. To be not, demise not, end not, to die not. I request an everlasting restraint. I call forth 1,000 poisons; Eishiibudigu (エイシィブディグ).*】】

Power streams to the arrow and the knife.
Kurando pours poison into Kuu and Erica.
The two's lips convulse and as they lay on the ground, a stain spreads from their lower body.
The two were left with a bit little of maryoku. Kurando chose to leave them with enough to recover from their wounds.
That was agreeable.
Because killing them is no good.

「Stooooooooop!」(???)
Without trying to conceal his presence, Hayato jumps right in as he spreads out his enormous power.
Making full use of the holy sword's function, Hayato uses his maryoku to reinforce his strength to the max.
His breathing became heavy and wild.

– ToC –

Chapter 46: Rampage ②

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

４６ー暴走②

Chapter 46 – Rampage ②

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

During their battle, did Kuu take notice of Kurando's use of autonomous magic?

To explain, Kurando's notebook plays the role of a grimoire.

The structure is very simple.

To constructed the grimoire; Kurando inserted the magic activator onto the spine of the book and then inscribed the autonomous magic-squares (circle) & formulas onto the pages.

For Kurando to utilize the magic, he feds dark spirits to the grimoire's magic-square (circle); the magic-square then forms a『shadow』, enveloping the target from head-to-toe.

Through no special procedure, maryoku is poured into the autonomous magic's magic-square layout, causing the shadow to activate the magic-square.

To some extent the opponent needs to stay in place, or else the magic-square would be out of sync; and then, when the magic activates the presence of the spirits would be noticeable & the magic-square would also be in danger of being seen.

As such, Kuu was fascinated by how Kurando was able to endure her assault for so long.

Then why was it that this world never discovered this simple method?

That was because it has been 200 years since there have been any technological

advancements in spirit magic. Also, there are not many people with high dark spirit affinity. Dark spirit magic by itself was only useful to the underworld of society. For spirit users, conveying one's intent is simple and absolutely necessary; however, the written magic-square formula(s) is far more complex and can be difficult to understand. Autonomous magic, life spirit magic, and spirit magic; these spirit magics have their own system. As such, using an autonomous magic's method of invocation to activate other spirit magic won't work. Likewise, there are not many people that can improve on the countless numbers of autonomous magic (original magic) available.

Everytime Kuu's attack broke Kurando's barrier, while unseen, he would use the shadow to reactive the physical・magic barrier, autonomous magic.
In short, Kurando fought a defensive battle; like that of a tortoise, he endured the assault with his excessive use of autonomous・life spirit magic・4 layer magic barrier.

Kurando had used the autonomous magic『Reisudamu』,『Kuusutora』, and『Eishibudigu』on Kuu.
He allowed himself to be stabbed to stop Kuu from moving. While holding her with the earth hand, Kurando covering her with a coffin made of dark spirits.
The instantly Kuu tried to brush away the earth hand by using spirits, while she was blinded by the dark coffin, Kurando used the shadow to activate the magic-square, invoking『Reisudamu』.
After『Reisudamu』was used to exhaust her maryoku, he was able to use『Kuusutora』and『Eishibudigu』on the helpless Kuu.
The magic sequence for『Eishibudigu's』magic-square is long and not user-friendly; however, it gives the user freedom to decide the poison's effect.
In any case, Kurando chose to inject the two with magic poison that would rob them of their freedom of movement.
Although the magic poison can be cured with medicine, it cannot be negated with maryoku.
Unless the maryoku is the correct key (magic code), the magic poison cannot be detoxified with maryoku.

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Why is it that Kurando is going to all this trouble to kept Erica and Kuu alive?

He had noticed that Hayato was approaching the battlefield.
While Kurando was on the defensive, he had requested dark spirits and wind spirits to survey the area for enemies. As Hayato was not trying to conceal himself, he was quickly discovered.
The spirits then informed Kurando that an enormous mass of power was approaching.
Kurando understood that that was Hayato.

He imagined that Hayato would come sooner or later.
Therefore, Kurando couldn't kill those two.
Hayato has the power to kill Kurando at any time.
But, ever since he came to this world, Hayato has changed. He now helps other people.
Hayato has the mentally of a high school senior. He is quick to anger and yet still insecure.

「Don't move!」(Kurando)
Kurando shouts out to stop Hayato from approaching any further.
A light spirit is fired overhead and it reveals an arrow and a knife sticking from the two's back.

Hayato used spirits to survey the situation.
It is evident that Erica and Kuu had fought a battle.
Certainly, it was with that janitor.
This morning, Erica and Kuu were acting strangely.
Erica would always follow Hayato everywhere, but not today. Although they weren't known to be close, Erica had gone together with Kuu to tour the village.
If the two were on good terms, then that would have made him glad as it meant that Erica's heart had not closed off.
And then, during the trial the sound of lightning was heard. Before Hayato realized it, it was already too late.
As a result, this cruel scene came to be.
Although he did notice Erica's and Kuu's usual behavior, Hayato didn't do anything about.

Hayato saw the arrow and the knife that had been plugged into his comrade.
While being enraged, he listens to the voice of Kurando who had captured the

two and stops moving closer.
「——release the two of them!」(Hayato)
Hayato was fuming with bloodlust.

The pressure makes it difficult for Kurando to stay standing.
Having fought Kuu, his maryoku and willpower had been shaved away. This caused the pressure from Hayato to feel even more oppressive.
Nearby was a good sized rock. While leaving enough room as he could, Kurando went to sit down on that rock. He doesn't stop the flow of maryoku to the arrow and grips the knife that had been lodged into Erica.
Yukishiro goes over to nestle by Kurando.
Kurando closed the grimoire and then strokes Yukishiro's fur.

「Release them you say, they were the attackers who had the tables turned on them.」(Kurando)
Kurando casually says this without being shy about it. But, it causes Hayato's anger to only increase.
「Why have you done something so cruel! Hurry and release them!」(Hayato)
「No way. Don't you dare gloss over things or I will kill these two. Cruel you say, they were the ones who attacked me. Instead should you not pity me the victim?」(Kurando)
「No one is trying to kill you! You will not be killed so hurry up and release those two!!」(Hayato)
「I don't believe you.」(Kurando)
Kurando clearly states this.
「Did you not promised me the other day that you wouldn't try to lay a finger on me.」(Kurando)
「……I didn't know.」(Hayato)
「You weren't aware, that isn't good enough.」(Kurando)
Kurando bluntly declares this.
When Hayato heard this, the『holy sword』was extinguished and then he reached for the dark red longsword on his back.
Just a bit, before Hayato could act.
"Anyhow, that man is only bluffing. There is no way he could kill a fellow Japanese countryman", Hayato thought.
「*Ahhhhhh!*」(Erica)

However, Erica cries out.
With that, Hayato couldn't make a move.
「Don't move.」(Kurando)
Kurando had pushed onto the knife that was pierced inside Erica.
「First off, toss away your weapons. Don't try anything. Ah, there is no need to worry as the two of them are still alive.」(Kurando)
Hayato doesn't cast his weapons aside.
「Ah, by the way. If by some chance you happen to kill me before I can react, although it is regrettable that I can't kill you, these two would die alongside me. Well, with Yukishiro's speed, it would be my victory.」(Kurando)
「You're bluffing.」(Hayato)
「Am I?」(Kurando)
Against Hayato's bloodlust, Kurando calms himself down by stroking Yukishiro's fur.

While breathing roughly, Hayato would send fleeting glances at Yukishiro.
He heard rumors that the white phantom was quite fast.
The magic beast had interfered by approaching Kurando, putting Erica and Kuu in harms reach.

Hayato readily tosses his longsword and magic gun aside.
And then, he showed Kurando a hateful expression.
「Now go off somewhere and kill yourself, with that everything will end peacefully.」(Kurando)
At Kurando's feet are the convulsing Erica and Kuu. Their eyes restlessly move about as their body spasmed.
Kuu looked at Kurando with an expression that implied he should just go ahead and kill her. On the other hand, Erica had tears and slobber dripping from his mouth as he looks at Kurando with a pleading expression.
「You, release the two, don't lay a hand on them.」(Hayato)
「……is that so?」(Kurando)
For a brief moment, as Kurando said this, he showed Hayato a joyful expression.
Kurando laughed as he teased Hayato.
In that moment, when Kurando noticed the frustration he was causing Hayato, Kurando's sadistic side awoken.
「That is probably what you thought I was going to say, right? From here

onwards, that female rabbit beastman is never to bother me again, alright? Because you disregarded our agreement, why don't you get down on the ground and grovel.」(Kurando)
Although Kurando has the advantage, he has no way out of this situation.
Perhaps the stalemate has caused Kurando's madness to grow.
「This…… they did so for my sake. I ask for your pardon.」(Hayato)
「Would your response have been the same over my deceased corpse?」(Kurando)
Upon Kurando's words, Hayato's breathing narrowed.
An ominous feeling crept into his heart.
「I had a 1/1000 chance of winning against them, you know.」(Kurando)
Kurando declared.
「Please, pardon them for trying to commit murder. They might try to attack you again, nothing can be done about that. You see, are you not making light of things?」(Hayato)
「……like I said before, never bother me again.」(Kurando)
Like a broken puppet, Kurando repeats the same words back to Hayato.
「Now isn't the time for this, so what is your aim? Is it that you don't understand? Ah, I see, you were trying to buy time. Well, I don' think the outcome will change much.」(Kurando)

Kurando's eyes turn to look at Hayato's party and Makushiimu who came running to the campsite. Makishiimu was carrying Akari & Aoi, and Oofuia.

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Those who had arrived, they wondered what was going on.

The wounded Erica and Kuu were being held hostage by Kurando who happened to be sitting down on a rock.
Hayato, the hero, who had cast aside his weapons was pleading for the hostages' release.
At face value, the story would be something like that, but that is merely how it appears on the surface.
Although, Hayato's comrades most likely see it as it is.

「Erica, Kuu!」(hayato's comrades)
Kaeda, Fon, and Arisu increased their pace.

「Don’t move!」(Kurando)
Kurando says this in a loud voice.
Akari was the first to realize the owner of the voice.
She recognized that rough voice because it belongs to the person she had lived together with.
Furthermore, the force from the volume of the voice was impressive.

However, the three did not stop upon hearing Kurando’s voice, only after they saw Erica cry out in agony did they swiftly stop advancing.
「Are you stupid, can you not tell the current situation? Or, is it that your eyes are bad?」(Kurando)
Kurando twists the knife that was stuck in Erica’s lung.
「Release Kuu and Erica!」(hayato’s comrades)
「That is far enough……」(Kurando)
Kurando shows a fed up expression.
「It is pointless for me to repeat the same thing over and over. So, listen well.」(Kurando)
Kurando looks to Hayato, Kaede, Fon, Arisu, Akari, Makushiimu, Oofuia, and Aoi.
「While I was minding my own business on the mountain, these two attacked me. I then narrowly managed to repel and capture them.」(Kurando)
“Were they able to understand the situation?”, Kurando thought as goes to check their expression.
He turns his attention towards Kaede, Fon, Arisu, and Hayato.
Hayato frowns but nods.
As if they had eaten something sour, the other 3 women show the same sour expression Hayato did.

Upon hearing the explanation; Akari, Makushiimu, and Oofuia seemed to understand.
Although Kurando appeared to be the villain, it was merely on the surface.
At the very least, Kurando wasn’t the one who attacked the two.
Now that the related party, Hayato, is not objecting, they will have to listen to what Kurando has to say.

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「Is that not…… I see, janitor-san?」(Aoi)

Aoi had not forgotten about Kurando.
「As expected, he also came here.」(Aoi)
With an apologetic expression on her face, Aoi seemed to be muttering something to herself.
When she saw the two heroes running off, Aoi knew something was up.
Although she didn't know the two's relationship, Aoi herself was rather close with Akari.
In this world, she has 78, no, she has 79 other countrymen here with her.
Similar to that time, she didn't want to regret anything more thus she followed after them.
Therefore, Aoi instinctively thought to tag along.
That being the case, her choice to follow them was correct.
The whereabouts of the janitor has been discovered.
The divine blessing that Hayato stole, it was from the very same janitor-san that was summoned along with them.

At the time they were summoned, Aoi was unable to do anything.
She was powerless.
They were helpless in the situation. It was Hayato efforts that had brought benefits to the other summoned people. His influences began to affect the world around them. It became dangerous to talk about Kurando among the other summoned people.
"Where had the janitor-san gone? Did he truly come to this world?", she thought. Anyhow, it was impossible for them to do a thorough search for him.
This world is vast and there are untamed lands.
Even in modern day Japan finding a shipwreck in the ocean is difficult.
It was outright impossible from them to search for the missing person.
And not to mention, there is no guarantee that the janitor would get along with the people of this world.
Those who were summoned knew just how frightening it was to be involved in the country's circumstances & to be surrounded by royalty, aristocrats, and government officials.
For example, the fear of being involved in international politics and war is always present.
In that case, if a scandal were to be discovered about the hero, Hayato, at the

very least that could be used as a pretext to put them under house arrest. Therefore, they didn't search nor did they talk about Kurando. Despite it, she had greeted Kurando as a friend.
For that reason, Aoi felt guilt and regret.
However, those two, they tried to kill the person who was finally found. Was there any reason to believe them?
It was the logic approach.

Aoi takes one step forward.
She moves no further, stopping before getting too close to Kurando prior to addressing him.
「It has been a while, janitor-san. It's me, Gotokuji Aoi. Do you remember me?」(Aoi)
Aoi politely addresses her senior, Kurando.
Kurando's eyes narrow as he looks to confirm Aoi's face.
「My, quite revealing clothes you have on…… ah, I remember you. You would greet me every morning. And, I also heard about you from Akari. You are the person who possesses the『Scythe of Fact』.」(Kurando)
He thoroughly confirmed it, her outfit that is.
For the first time, Aoi thought about the clothing she had worn for the trial.
The significance behind her revealing clothes was to imply that nothing would be concealed.
However, the current case doesn't require it. With a slightly redden face, Aoi encourages herself.

「It was inexcusable.」(Aoi)
Aoi silently bows her head.
「……there is no time for this. Save it for later.」(Kurando)
「I will make it brief. After arriving in this world, we didn't know left from right and thus we couldn't search for you. I wanted to apologize to you.」(Aoi)
Kurando sighs as Aoi shows no sign of raising her head.
「Ah, enough. I was already informed of the circumstances from Akari. At the very least, you couldn't search for me, to the point where you all had ended up concealing my existence. I don't resent you all. If I were to be discovered now, it would only bring trouble. Well, no one is going to get emotional over your meek apologies, okay.」(Kurando)

Aoi slowly raised her head and looked to Akari.
Akari shows a slightly bashful expression.
「During the time I was falsely accused and on the run, I happened to stumble upon Kurando. Afterward, he provided me with shelter?」(Akari)
「He sheltered you……」(Aoi)
「……the rest is a secret.」(Akari)
Aoi scans Akari from top to bottom.
「I see. So that is why you have an adult-like atmosphere. Oh, was it like that? It doesn't appear to be so, well, it seems to be something similar.」(Aoi)
Aoi, who happened to have consented on something by herself, caused Akari to become flustered.
「No-nothing happened. Really, nothing at all.」(Akari)
Aoi paid Akari's explanation no mind.
「Well, in any case, it is not like I am entirely unrelated to Erica. Will you let those two go?」(Aoi)
「If you can guarantee that these two will never attack me again then I don't mind.」(Kurando)
Aoi puts her hand to her chin and begins to think.
She then turned to looked at Akari.
「Are you aware of the situation? If so, can you explain the circumstance to me?」(Aoi)
Akari gave a fleeting glance to Kurando.
Kurando thought about it for a little while and then nods.
At any rate, an honest conversation with Hayato's party is not possible. Because they were going to leave the Arerudouria mountain range, there is no point in hiding anything from Aoi.
Although Akari doesn't know this current state of affairs, she gave a summary to Aoi about what has happened up until now.

A few minutes after Akari explained the circumstance, Aoi understood everything and then made a suggestion to Kurando.
「Although I do not know what happened between you and Ichihara, janitor-san, no Kurando-san. Is it alright to kept the fact that you are a summoned person a secret from the people of this world? And then, as for those two, how about we permanently imprison them? For example, they will be given a life sentence.」

(Aoi)
「——Gotokuji-senpai.」(Hayato)
Hayato directs criticism towards Aoi.
Aoi stops and stares at Hayato before condemning him.
「If what Kurando-san has said is true, if this were Japan, those two have committed attempted murder. From the standpoint of this world's law, a thief would be cut down where they stand and no complaints would be made. Am I mistaken?」(Aoi)
Hayato is at a lost for words, but he managed to squeeze out an objection.
「But, what about their achievements and their service.」(Hayato)
「The crime of murder can be offset by merit, unfortunately, I don't know of such a thing.」(Aoi)
Hayato shakes his head no.
「They are still minors. If this was Japan, there would be no case of life imprisonment.」(Hayato)
「Certainly. But, this isn't Japan. And from what I know, the law is strict when it comes to perpetrator(s) having the tables turn against them.」(Aoi)
Hayato opens his mouth to speak but then falls silent.
He showed the expression of someone who had been cornered.

「……if there is such a place.」(Kurando)
Kurando replies to Aoi.
「As a matter of fact, there is. It has been quickly constructed. I am not trying to boast but, myself and several others of those who were summoned were asked to administrate the place. It is a place where magic cannot be used; it can serve as a place where heinous criminals can be locked away for eternity. This prison is a place where political authority cannot reach.
However, for heroes, it is another matter. Maintaining a divine blessing holder in a prison could prove difficult. At this current phase, we don't have the power to do so.」(Aoi)
Aoi tells them the truth.
For a mutual understanding to be reached, secrets should not be kept.

After hearing this, Kurando turns his line-of-sight towards Oofuia to confirm the content.
Oofuia had been watching the situation unfold.

As this conversation is related to heroes, she has to be careful of what is said.
Kurando's actions were logical; however, the opinions of the people of this world is different.
Nevertheless, Oofuia didn't want to be disliked for how she answered.
「……I have heard of it. Supposedly, there is a facility being managed by several heroes in the cold desert.」(Oofuia)
「Is there any such facilities around this area?」(Kurando)
「Of course, there are various one(s) in each country. Although, there might not be a maximum security prison. Besides, in their case, they will not be standing trial. I assume, Kurando-san would be troubled if that were to occur, right?」(Oofuia)
「For this facility, this time around, a sentence without a trial will be alright. As I am the judge of the Trial of Truth, I will bend the rules a bit in this case.」(Aoi)
Aoi declared.
This problem more or less twisted her creed, but as this involves a fellow summoned person it was necessary to settle the matter.

However, Hayato persisted on resisting.
「Who do you think you are? Why are you all deciding it was Erica's and Kuu's crime?」(Hayato)
「Are you doubting what the janitor has said, do you not trust him?」(Aoi)
「It isn't a matter of whether I believe or not, that was clearly overkill.」(Hayato)
Hayato condemns Kurando's actions.

「*Sigh*, you're right. At this rate, who know when they will die. ——therefore, Kurando-san, will you trust us and allow those two to receive medical treatment?」(Aoi)
Aoi offers to negotiate.
「How about over my dead body?」(Kurando)
Kurando throws away his chance to escape.
In other words, Kurando is willing to risking his life. They then question why Kurando is being so rash.
And in this world, there is no magic that can resurrect a person.
「I allowed it once, but not for a second time.」(Kurando)
Kurando glares at Hayato.
Aoi looked to Akari, but Akari merely shakes her from side to side.

「Hmm, Akari do you happened to know what went on inside the cave? What was Ichihara and Kurando-san agreement?」(Aoi)
Hayato hesitated to say.
「From here onwards, yours and mine, our acquaintances are not to cause harm nor are they are to be involved. That will be our agreement. It is nothing difficult.」(Kurando)
Kurando easily says it.

「I see, you have no reason to trust us. It can't be helped.」(Aoi)
「But——」(Hayato)
「——I'm tired of you half-heartedness.」(Kurando)
Kurando interrupts Hayato and shows a feed up expression.
「Hurry up and make your choice. Will you stop getting involved or will you commit suicide? Will those two be kill and never be able to bother me again or will they be thrown into prison and never be able to bother me again? Otherwise, I will self-destruct and kill everyone here, you will be the only survivor.」(Kurando)
「You are bluffing. I only need to be quicker than that Iruniiku.」(Hayato)
「——the multiple link formula.」(Kurando)

With those few words, Arisu reconsidered using recovery magic on Erika and Kuu. She rushed to stop Hayato.
「Wait, Hayato.」(Arisu)
「Why, it is obviously a bluff——」(Hayato)
「It is probably not baseless. The multiple link formula. Spirit magic, autonomous magic, and life spirit magic; it refers to the act of operating 2 or more magics at the same time, it's magic activation technology. Because life spirit magic doesn't link easily, spirit magic and autonomous magic are usually linked together. Normally, a person wouldn't possess many autonomous magic (original)……
——how many original magic do you have?」(Arisu)
「……five」(Kurando)
Arisu glared at Oofuia.
It looked as if a grade schooler was glaring at a grandma.
Arisu could only think of one person who could have taught Kurando those magic, that person was Oofuia.
Oofuia simply smiled when she caught Arisu's gaze.

While explaining to Hayato, Arisu was irritated by Oofuia's composer.
「……since that elderly person seems to be involved, it is probably true. I don't know the details but, perhaps, there is a possibility of him self-destructing.」(Arisu)
Hayato tightly gripped his fist and somehow held down his impulse to fight.

Although Oofuia is showing a smile on her face, inside she was skeptical.
She had never taught Kurando a suicide explosion magic.

At that moment, Aoi intervenes.
「In Erica-kun's case, it might be impossible.」(Aoi)
「——for this crime, you want to throw them is a normal prison. Are the prison(s) in this world even honest? We are talking about a little bit hell here, are you not being hasty. I say we reach a compromise.」(Hayato)
Upon Aoi advice, Kurando immediately replied.

「Enough already, hurry and decided. I won't let you wait out until my maryoku runs dry. You have 10 seconds. If you have not made a decision in the next 10 seconds, well, I will kill one of them.」(Kurando)
What would happen afterward?
Kurando himself didn't know.
In the worst case, he would self-destruct. At some point, he had already made up his mind.
No, he did not resign himself to fate.
It was more like a loser dog wanting to go down fighting.
Perhaps, he could have run away.
However, what awaits him if he continued to run away?
He is not the protagonist of manga. Kurando cannot simply run away from Hayato and build up power to fight back. For argument's sake, what about the fear one would feel while being on the run?
For how many years would he have to live in fear?
Is that not committing a mistake to oneself?
In the first place, he hasn't done anything wrong.
He wasn't wrong; he should not step back.
Ah, if this place was Japan, this might not go as smoothly, perhaps.
However, that being the case, Kurando can get revenge with the last of his

breath.
From ability to intellect to strength; everything about him was mediocre.
He is not special; he is an ordinary man. How long must he live in fear, how long must he continue to lose, how long must things continue to be snatched away from him, and how long must he continue to keep running away.

This was more than an ordinary man's regret.
For better or worst, he is who he is.
Although he is ordinary, he doesn't want to yield.
For the sake of not yielding, his only option is to do something crazy.
Even if his true character doesn't show through and he is misunderstood, Kurando was not concerned with it.

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(Hayato's perspective)
Hayato painfully grasped his fist, trembling, he mumbles something to himself.
Aside from the choices that Kurando's gave, no other choices can be made.
Hayato was unable to decide.

He couldn't allow those two to be killed.
There was no reason from the two to die.
But, there is no way he can commit suicide.
He couldn't follow through with what that man had said. Hayato couldn't abandon his companion nor could he afford to die here.
Going to prison was out of the question.
Who decided on such a time in the first place?
Why can't I just hit him?
That person is the bad guy. Why are they covering for the bad guy?
Why does no one try to cover for me?
What does he mean by self-destruction? There is no way that is possible.
However, Arisu said.
No, with my power.
But, but, but, but.
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh.

「*Arghhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh*」(Hayato)

Hayato looked up towards the sky and roared out.

Due to one mistake, our path has been blocked.

Adults are always like this.

Hayato recalls being abandoned by his father after making a single mistake.

「*Arghhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh*」(Hayato)

——I will do anything for your sake.

Hayato mutters to himself a sweet whisper.

– ToC –

Chapter 47: Rampage ③

用務員さんは勇者じゃありませんので

Because, Janitor-san Is Not A Hero

47ー暴走③

Chapter 47 – Rampage ③

MTL: uniquegasuki

Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

「*Arghhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh*」(Hayato)

Having nowhere to vent out his emotions, Hayato shout out, his voice resonates in the forest shrouded by night.

At that moment, his vast maryoku spilled out, causing the spirit density to raise.

Hayato temper rose.

He struggles with internal conflict and contradictions. Hayato couldn't accept the idea that a person is given allies while the other person wasn't handed anything.

Hayato lost his mind and fell under the spirit's temptation.

Spirit are neither good nor evil.

In exchange for maryoku (vitality), they will lend their power regardless of a person's desire.

They have no consideration for people nor other living creatures.

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「Hayato, calm down!」(Arisu)

Arisu rushes over to Hayato while Kaeda embraced him from behind.

This is the 2nd time Hayato has gone berserk.

Currently, what approaches is a disaster worst than merely Arisu dying.

It was necessary to stop.

Kurando looked at Hayato's party who seemed to be flustered as Hayato doesn't appear to be in his usual state of mind. Kurando then turns to look at his surrounding for an answer.
Naturally, Hayato's party told him nothing. Akari and Aoi merely shook their head from side to side. And of course, being someone who couldn't read the mood, Makushiimu wasn't aware of anything either.
Lastly, Kurando moves his line-of-sight to Oofuia. Her mouth was wide open.
「I don't know for sure; however, major spirits that usually gather when high-grade magic is being used are present. This defies common sense. Except for darkness, all of the spirits are usable for high grade magic.」(Oofuia)
Of course, the use of high-grade magic has a few requires.
First, there is affinity.
Second, the user must have enough maryoku.
And, there need to be several spirits.
Spirits are not something one can natural sense. No clear numerical value can be estimated and there is no fixed amount of spirits in any given area of space. For high-grade magic to be available for use, the spirit ratio within the user's range must be at least 60%.
That being said, the current phenomenon went against everything Oofuia commonly knew about spirits.
Naturally, the spirit ratio should cap at 100%, but what she felt was closer to nearly 1,000%.
Kurando assumed that chances are, this was the result of another divine blessing,『Bond (the spirit's beloved)』.
And thus, after understanding the circumstance, for some reason he called out to that person.

「Hey, pointy-hat…… child.」(Kurando)
Hearing Kurando's voice, Arisu glared at him with eyes filled with hate.
「Is this because of the blessing『Bond』? Has this happened before? What is the cause? What is going to happen? Is there a method to stop this?」(Kurando)
Upon catching her line-of-sight, Kurando asked her a series of questions.
「Why must I——」(Arisu)
「——shut it. There is no time for bickering.」(Kurando)

She didn’t have the option to refuse Kurando’s inquiry.
Except for those of Hayato’s party, everyone else had their eyes on Arisu.
Because their gaze felt unpleasant, although reluctant, she replied to Kurando’s questions.
In her current state, she had the appearance of a sulking child.
「……yes, you are correct, the cause is due to the blessing『Bond』. The first time this happened was when we fought against the dragon type monster. When we were trying to protect the other heroes, the blessing went on a rampage.
Although the monster was defeated, the rampage lasted all day and all night. As a result, the mountain behind the school campus was blown away.
The source seems to be psychological. It probably stems from Hayato’s feeling of helplessness and hatred.
If this continues, the destruction caused by the spirits will end up altering the geography of this mountain region.」(Arisu)
「The geography?」(Kurando)
「The dragon type monster had an abnormal regenerative ability; for that reason, he had used all of his power to fight that monster. As a result, the academy was almost dragged into the disaster. If the same thing were to occur here; mountains would repeatedly raise and sink from the ground, icicles will form, a sea of flames would appear, violent winds like that from a tornado would blow, lightning would rain down from above, a flood of water would spurt from the ground, and a light 3 times more radiant than daylight would shine.」(Arisu)
Naturally, regardless of whether they are human or hero, those caught up in something like that would die. Arisu continues.

「Then, can anything be done?」(Kurando)
Upon Kurando’s inquiry, Arisu frowned.
「……nothing can be done. Last time, the rampage didn’t end until his maryoku was exhasted——」(Arisu)
Arisu showed a gesture that implied she was thinking about something.
「Supposely, Erica & Kaede or another heroes’ voice might be able to reach through his consciousness. However, there is no guarantee it would work. At best, the possibility does exist,」(Arisu)
Kurando is astonished by what a piece of work this hero is.
However, despite being disgusted by him, Kurando turns to look at Hayato.

He didn’t look away.

「My explosion (self-destruct) would be a gust of wind compared to this.」 (Kurando)
While finding it troublesome, Kurando to stood up to take action.
Yukishiro looked up to Kurando with a concerned expression.
Kurando places his hand on its head. He then roughly and gently caressed Yukishiro.
Yukishiro looks to Kurando in protest; however, Kurando walks away from the two (Kuu & Erica) and made his way to Hayato.
「What are you doing?」 (Arisu)
Arisu shouts at Kurando who is approaching Hayato.
「Well, either way will lead to death, so I may as well get it over with. Anyhow, was I not the original target? Well, a little bit, when I think about protecting this hero-sama, I,」 (Kurando)

Muttering this, Kurando got closer to Hayato.
Inside, he felt a faint unpleasant sensation.
Since the start of Hayato rampage, Kurando felt as if something was calling out to him.
It was not Hayato, but something else.
It was vexing having to help Hayato, but at this rate, they will all die together. In the case of Kurando self-destructing, that was something that couldn’t be helped but this is another matter.

Hayato grunted when Kurando came into his line-of-sight.
However, his eyes reflect nothing and did not focus.
「This is not the『spirit’s beloved』, it more like the spirit’s yandere. So, this is the ability you stolen from me, huh?」 (Kurando)
Upon that mutter, Hayato showed a slight reaction.

Immediately after, Kurando was hit with a ball of wind.
It broke 2 of Kurando’s barriers.
The power exceeded Kuu’s attack strength.
“A hero’s power shouldn’t work on another fellow hero, right?”, as Kurando thought this he felt a stream of cold sweat.
At very the least, he doesn’t think it will be effective.

In the case of the blessing『Bond』, is it even able to tell heroes apart for fellow heroes?
Or is it, the attack was without the influence of the blessing『Bond』. Let us say that is the case, then that would mean that that was Hayato's original spirit magic without any buffs to his maryoku performace・magic strength.
If so, then that would mean Hayato's maryoku capacity and skill is above Kurando's.
"Give me a break", Kurando thought.
He couldn't help but think so.

Nevertheless, this person definitely had stolen Kurando's ability.
Otherwise, there would not have been this much of a reaction.
「Hey now, I'm not going to bite, calm down.」(Kurando)
Kurando turns to speak to Hayato.
The power (ability) appears to have stabilized and is not lingering.
Even if he were to try and return the ability, it is impossible to give back.
There is no method to return it.
However, Kurando was unsure about this uncomfortable feeling that he presently felt.

He quietly stares at Hayato.
From somewhere, Kurando is sensing something.
Kurando takes one step forward.
This time, lightning had formed and passed through Kurando before he even realized it.
The attack broke penetrated his 2 barriers, leaving him with a faint sting of static electricity.
With his low maryoku reserves, Kurando reapplies the barriers. Questioning himself why he is doing this, Kurando continues forward.
While putting his life-on-the-line, with what little maryoku he has left, Kurando must subdue Hayato.

Because Kurando didn't want to die.
That would be his obvious answer.
Then, what was the cause of all of this?
It was the result of those two who had assaulted him.

And thus, Kurando ended up『a move away from being in checkmate』.
Why didn't Kurando kill those two who had attacked him?
On the other hand, if he had killed them, Hayato would definitely seek revenge.
Because he couldn't kill them, they had to be captured. However, Hayato could not be reasoned with as the person is irrational. In the first place, Kurando never trusted Hayato.
If Kurando were to release them as Hayato had requested, who knows when they would come to attack him again.
By all means, he would end up living in constant worry.
Ah, it is a splendid『checkmate』.
When Kurando thought about this, he felt like hitting Hayato.
Therefore, he does what needs to be done.

「There is no mistake, Hayato, you are the cause of this situation. If you never stole my ability, this would have never happened.」(Kurando)

Upon Kurando's words, Hayato twitched.
This time, no magic was shot.
Kurando advances toward Hayato, one step at a time.

「I wanted to settle the matter, but unfortunately, I don't have the power to do so. Although for you to have stolen from someone weaker than yourself, the chance for you to end the matter has already vanished.」(Kurando)

With each step Kurando takes, as he approaches closer to Hayato, the uncomfortable feeling inside Kurando begins to grow bigger.

「I had given up on various things. Well, I was near the bottom of society's social ladder. I was an average person and that was just how it was. Nevertheless, there are times when even an ordinary person would get angry.」(Kurando)

As he reached Hayato, Kurando felt that uncomfortable pulling him in.
No more attacks came from Hayato.

「I always wanted to hit you; therefore, consider it a punishment and receive it.」(Kurando)

Hayato didn't move.
He could not move.

That uncomfortable feeling was drawing in Hayato towards Kurando.
Like how north and south poles in magnets attract, they couldn't go against one another.
Due to the dim haziness of his consciousness, Hayato found himself unable to resist.
This naive yet destructive urge left him feeling uneasy.
In a sense, Hayato's and Kurando's differences made them similar.

And thus, Kurando clinches his fist.
Although he is wearing the giant's glove, Kurando doesn't reinforce it.

Hayato shows not signs of movement.
He stands there defenseless.
And, without any barriers.

Kurando mercilessly swings his fist.

His fist collides with Hayato's face.

In that instant, the intense and uncomfortable feeling Kurando felt vanished.
With that, a portion of his maryoku was siphoned.
Kurando then felt slight refreshed.
However, that was all.
As expected, his ability showed no signs of returning.

The spirits that were gathering around Hayato stopped increasing.
However, that was all.
Hayato is still maintaining the vast number of spirits.
Kurando turns around.
Needless to say; Arisu, Fon, and Kaede came into view.
They are showing a frantic expression.
There was no longer any need for Kurando to look at Hayato. And just like that, those three looked pass one another.

The divine blessing『Bond』has no personality.
And, this was the first time a divine blessing was stolen.
However, because Kurando was the original owner of『Bond』, it wasn't too strange that the spirits took noticed of him and stopped their rampage.
For a moment, like that of a girl who had met a bad man and she stopped to see

her beloved uncle.
The girl had calmed down.
Although she loved Hayato, deep down, she was asking for help.
That unpleasant feel was what had drawn Kurando in.
However, no matter what, the person she loved the most was Hayato. No matter how many times the girl is warned, she doesn't choose to return. To the girl, Kurando is no more than her beloved uncle.
Therefore, Kurando's ability does not return.
In his own way, this is how Kurando chooses to interpret it.

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In a daze, Hayato rubbed his cheek that was hit.
However, his eyes were clearly not focused.
「Hayato, are you alright?」(Kaeda)
「Hayato are you hurt anywhere?」(Arisu)
「Hayato come back, I haven't returned the favor yet.」(Fon)
The voices belong to the 3 girls.
Hayato's eyes come into focus as he followed to where the voices came from.
"Ah, it's Kaeda, Arisu, and Fon", he thought.
They are my important companions.
These women have accepted me.
Hayato awakens and his awareness returns.
It felt as if a fog had been instantly cleared away.

Having regained consciousness, the spirits which Hayato had gathered dispersed.
The reason why this happened is not certain. Perhaps, another existence had guided the spirits away or was it that the person himself had subconsciously liberated them?

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Strength then returns to Hayato's eyes.
And thus, with his three companions standing by a good distant away from behind him, while fuming with hatred, he homed in on the two hostages being held by Kurando.

When Kurando saw Hayato looking this way, Kurando mutters something while showing a fed-up expression.
「Jeeze, you have returned yet now you're back to acting like this again.」 (Kurando)
「Whatever, release those two already.」 (Hayato)
The former Hayato has returned.
He doesn't appear to have any memories from during the rampage.

Having returned to his spot, Kurando rubs the head of Yukishiro who is by his knee.
Atop its head, Kurando lightly scratched the back of Yukishiro's ears.
The humored Yukishiro beings to purr.
「Ba-bastard, stop playing around.」 (Hayato)
Being ignored, Hayato anger rises.
No matter how one looks at it, this is no time to escape from reality.
With an annoyed expression on his face, Kurando turns to looks at Hayato.

「Well, what do you want?」 (Kurando)
「Let us duel!」 (Hayato)

Having once been restarted, "has this person become a simpleton", Kurando thought.
For a moment, Kurando was rendered speechless as such a thing is not going to happen.
「Are you an idiot? There is no way I would accept. In no such world is there a person who would willingly challenge a battle in the nude. What, did you think such a barbaric practice is acceptable now that we are in another world? Seriously, in a duel the stronger person is correct. Needless to say, you're suggesting to have a duel with an opponent weak than yourself, is that not highway robbery?」 (Kurando)

As Kurando outlines the demerits of the duel, Hayato shows a faint frown.
Perhaps, the person was ashamed of their remark.

「That is not a bad proposal?」 (Aoi)
「How pointless.」 (Kurando)
However, Aoi saw things differently.
Previously, when all those spirits had been gathered, there was a possibility that

they could have died. But, she showed her courage and did not tremble a bit.
Kurando doubted Aoi and looked at her with an annoyed expression.
「However, it will be an unarmed fight; no divine blessing(s), no magic, no weapons, and no armor.
If Kurando-san wins, those two will go to prison, and from here onwards, neither Hayato's acquaintances nor Kurando's acquaintances are to cause harm. Also, no information is to be leaked. I shall vow to the『Scythe of Fact』that there will be no changing one's mind afterward.」(Aoi)
「There is no way you can guarantee that no one would change their mind.」(Kurando)
Kurando has no interest in the matter.
Even if he did fight, there is no clear chance of victory.
「If I am not mistaken, the『Scythe of Fact's』ability has already been proven to be trustworthy. Nevertheless, there are witnesses present thus I believe that Ichihara and his companions will not break the agreement.」(Aoi)
Aoi looks towards Oofuia, Makushiimu, and Akari.
The three of them nod.

「But even so, there were still people foolish enough to attack me.」(Kurando)
Kurando looks to the 2 people at his feet.
「That was before, are the circumstances not a bit different this time around? The members here, they are worried about Kurando-san's well-being. And if the agreement is broken, the truth would be disclosed.」(Aoi)
「——Aoi.」(Arisu)
Arisu tries to question Aoi.
Aoi glared at Arisu with a menacing expression.
Upon seeing her gaze, Arisu faltered.
「In those days, after you jokingly summoned us, we didn't have a clue as to what was going on; however, that is no longer the case and it is not necessary to have a person be the scapegoat.
I have not pardoned you, and I will not allow you to forget it.」(Aoi)
Aoi was the one who criticized her instead, causing Arisu to lose her vigor.
Suddenly, the root of the summoning was revealed to Kurando.
"If it was not for your foolishness, this would have never happened", Kurando thought this as murderous intent reflected in his eyes.

His glare seems to give off 1,000 curses.
Kurando will show no mercy to his opponent, whether that person is a child or a woman.
Upon receiving Kurando hatred fullied gaze, Arisu further withered.
Having met Hayato, she had acknowledged her crime; however, Kurando's overbearing gaze was still frightening.

Abruptly, Hayato moves to protect Arisu.
Kurando clicks his tongue.
Aoi continues.
「Of course, for the safety of all those who were summoned and Kurando-san included, I will do my best for their sake. As I have said, that is my intention.」(Aoi)
「What are you saying, are you and Hayato, not both heroes!」(Arisu)
Arisu clings to Hayato's back.
She hides behind Hayato as he stands to defend her.
「That is right. Kurando-san is also a fellow summoned person, our countryman……. and, I have never been pleased with your ideology of us heroes as being the chosen ones. Would you not shut it with your irresponsible blabber?」(Aoi)
Hearing the scorn behind Aoi's words, Arisu falls silent.

If Aoi were to break her end of the agreement and attack Kurando today, there is always the threat of the concealed information being disclosed to a『3rd party』.

And thus, Aoi must keep that『3rd party』in mind.
「We will cooperate. In the first place, there was already an agreement in place with Kurando-san.」(Ooofuia)
「I will do what is within my ability to cooperate with Kurando-san.」(Akari)
「I had also made a promise. Well, it was somewhat broken but no more as it is not good to break promises. Otherwise, I may as well be struck down by my ancestors.」(Makushiimu)
Aoi, Oofuia, Akari, and Makushiimu reassured Kurando.
If something were to happen to Kurando, they will be sure to not stay silent.

Realizing the significances behind Aoi's words, Kurando looks up at the sky

while showing a tired expression.
As Aoi had said, the heroes cannot be rid of Kurando existence, that is just how things are. Rather to them, it is a secret that needs to stay hidden.
If Kurando's existence were to be exposed, it would effect Hayato the most. It could be said, that this is the equivalent of equipment oneself with an exploding shield.
Judging by appearance, in the face of hardship, Kurando appears to have lost his nerve.
He is twirling his finger around Yukishiro's whiskers as it purrs.
——*C-chu, guhh*
While he was fiddling with Yukishiro's whiskers, it suddenly sneezed.

No matter what is said, as Kurando affectionally stared at Yukishiro's face, he thought himself to be nothing special.
He desperately did not want to yield.
Kurando didn't want to go down without struggling.
Nevertheless, he saw no exit in sight.

To trust others.
To confine in and cooperate together.

However, simply put, the problem was close to being resolved.
Although, when all is said and done, Kurando couldn't bring himself to trust Aoi.
He also couldn't trust Oofuia, Akari, and Makushiimu. The situation is something that can easily change and become hostile.
But, it wasn't that he thought it was suspicious.
Because they made a promise, he wanted to trust them.
Kurando made a strained smile as something felt off.

Aoi saw the dishearted expression that Kurando showed on his face.
「Kurando-san, that isn't quite right. This is the result of the trust you yourself have built up. Certainly, it may be too soon to ask this of you and it is possible to draw out this situation but perhaps, the situation could further worsen.
In this world, for us heroes, it is very difficult to find people we can trust. If I were in your situation, I probably would be thinking the same thing you are.」
(Aoi)
A woman 7 years his junior had read this facial expression and is trying to

comfort him.
This made Kurando somewhat want to cry.

「……uh? Is it really necessary that we have to fight each other?」(Kurando)
Kurando shows an expression that implied he thought up a good idea.
Aoi shakes her head no.
「He won't agree with that.」(Aoi)
Aoi's line-of-sight moves over to the other consenting party, towards that guy.

「Then, what happens if I win?」(Hayato)
Hayato has an unusually lively expression as he listened to Aoi.
「With Kurando-san's acknowledgment, Erika's and Kuu's actions will not be questioned any further. However, from henceforth, your's and his acquaintances are to not leak any information nor cause harm to one another. I will have you all pledge this on『Scythe of Fact』. If anyone is to break this vow, regardless if whether they are a fellow summoned person, I will not pardon them.」(Aoi)
Aoi looks over to Kurando to confirm the details.

Kurando thought about it.
He is more or less in fighting condition.
From here on out, there is no need for anything complicated.
Perhaps, this is the only way for them to find common ground.
There was no need to turn to madness.

Despite the one-sided conditions, Hayato seemed unconcerned.
「Whatever. It won't happen a second time.」(Hayato)
Hayato declared.
After the previous rampage, he had lost most of his maryoku.
Therefore, Hayato had determined that a brawl would be the best course of action.

Seeing Hayato cheerfully unfastening his own equipment, Kurando was overcome with an unusual urge to hit Hayato.
Apparently, that first hit wasn't enough.
Whether or not Kurando had a chance of winning, he at least wanted to return the grudge several folds.
「……I am also ready.」(Kurando)
At last, Kurando says it.

「Then, is it alright to give those two medical treatment?」(Aoi)
Aoi confirmed that Kurando gave consent.
He thought it was no longer necessary to hold them hostage.
Kurando looks to Yukishiro and then cancels the magic.
Aoi exchanged a glance with Hayato's party.
The 3 of them rush over to give Erika and Kuu medical treatment.

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The two of them removed all of their equipment, leaving their upper body bare.
To describe the two.
Kurando has a medium build with sturdy muscles.
Hayato is tall & thin with flexible muscles that cover his whole body. He has what one would call an athletic build.

「Now then, the use of divine blessing(s), magic, weapons, and armor of any kind is prohibited. Please, all members stand witness. If any violation occurs, the person who commits a foul play automatically loses.」(Aoi)
Aoi gave a warning to the two.
She will be the referee of the duel.
Hayato's party and Oofuia & company stared at the two from behind.
Erika and Kuu have their body raised, but they are in no condition to be moving around.

From the front, Kurando listens to what Hayato has to say.
「I had a feeling we would end up fighting like this.」(Hayato)
Hayato turns his nose. It seems his mood is completely back to normal.
「My mind feels refreshed and clear. It is simple now that I think about it. If by some chance I lose, I don't mind going to prison, it is that simple. You see, it's similar to Kuu's case. In this world, there is always a loophole.」(Hayato)
「You know what…… you're truly a protagonist.」(Kurando)
(T/N: sarcasm)
Kurando is genuinely amazed and gives up on the topic.
「I don't know what you are trying to saying—— but, I won't lose.」(Hayato)

「Now then, you may begin.」(Aoi)

Suddenly, Hayato makes his move.
He dashes forward and closes the distance between them, throwing a left straight punch from the front.
There was no form to his movement as he was free-styling it by using his natural flexibility.
Kurando was unable to react to the speed of Hayato's punch.
But, he was still able to put up his guard.
「*Guh*」(Kurando)
However, Hayato delivered a round-house-kick to Kurando's side.
The first move was a simple feint.
However, for some reason, Hayato pulled back after giving that kick.
「……tired?」(Kurando)
He muttered.
Kurando gave a hearty laugh.
In the first place, Kurando didn't focus on dodging.
Except for his head, his hardened body can withstand quite a few strikes.
When training with Yukishiro, it wasn't like Yukishiro threw cat punches.
「Then, I just need to get a clean hit in.」(Hayato)
Saying so, Hayato casual steps in.
He closes the gap between himself and Kurando and instantly fires off another attack.
Kurando was able to avoid Hayato's thrust by a paper thin margin.
However, the wind pressure from the attack was quite bone-chilling.
「If heavy attacks don't work, then…… how about this,」(Hayato)
Hayato follows up with a counter like hook swing.
The hook punch splendidly landed on Kurando's temple.
It sent Kurando wobbling backward.
The blow briefly knocked Kurando unconscious.
However, he didn't allow himself go down.
Like that of turtle guarding itself, Kurando tightly covers his head with his arms.
「*Hmph*, I will just kick you until you fall.」(Hayato)
Hayato takes a step back. Using that momentum, he does a horizontal kick; then, he turns back and does a reverse kick.
He rains down a shower of blows onto Kurando.

However, no matter how many times he was kicked, Kurando's face-guard did not go down.
On the contrary, the time in between attacks gradually started to grow.
「*Tsk*, how about his,」(Hayato)
Hayato clicks his tongue. He stopped his kicks and then chooses to close the distances between himself and Kurando.
Kurando wasn't going to fall for the same trick twice.
However, that was Hayato's aim.
He passes Kurando guard and then grabs Kurando's head with both hands.
And just like that, Hayato jumps upwards.
His knee moves through the guard and smashes into Kurando's chin.
Kurando is blown backward.
However, Hayato wasn't finished.
Utilizing his flexible hip, Hayato does an 180-degree front kick targeted at Kurando's chin.
In addition, he followed up with a return heel drop onto Kurando.
「You are quite sturdy for an old man.」(Hayato)
Even so, Kurando did not fall. Although his consciousness was hazy, Kurando heard Hayato's taunting. Hayato placed his hand on Kurando's shoulder and then leaps into the air.
While standing on Kurando's shoulders, Hayato then drops his knee onto the top of Kurando's head.
Furthermore, Hayato descends down Kurando's back and then slams a heel kick into Kurando's upper back.
And still, Kurando does not fall.
Now that Hayato is finally staying in one place, Kurando could quickly turn around and catch Hayato.
But, he was unable to do anything.
Kurando had lost consciousness.
In an instant, Hayato embraces Kurando's back and just like that, he slammed Kurando against the surface of the ground.
And then, Hayato trampled on Kurando's elbow 10 or so times.
「*Phew*, it's over.」(Hayato)
Hayato looked at the worn out Kurando and then he looks over to Aoi.

However, Aoi says nothing.
「*Tsk*, says who.」(Kurando)
Although Kurando is hurt, his voice shows that he is clearly conscious.
Hayato leg was in front of Kurando's face. This was the perfect opportunity.
「*Hmph*」(Kurando)
Therefore, Kurando gave a hearty laugh.
「*Tsk*」(Hayato)
Hayato puts strength into his arm.
「——*GAHHHHHHHHHHHHHH*」(Hayato)

However, Hayato falls to the ground screaming, preventing any possible counters.
Kurando discarded something from his hand.
He had used his fingernails.
「This isn't a sport.」(Kurando)
Kurando had put power into his fingers, forcing his nails to tear into Hayato's leg.
In a flash, Kurando kicks Hayato in the head.
As it was like kicking a soccer ball, the kick was fairly effective.
Having received a powerful kick, Hayato tries to escape by crawling away.
However, Kurando didn't permit it.
Kurando grips Hayato firmly by the head and then proceeds to bash Hayato's head with his other hand.
He strikes Hayato without mercy.
Kurando hits him.
He earnestly hits Hayato.

Aoi was tempted to stop the duel.
A duel is basically a fight to the death.
But as expected, in this case, one of them dying is not likely to happen as there is healing magic that can recover injuries to a certain degree. As such, it was best not to stop them for something minor.

Pew, pew, pew

Aoi noticed an unusual sound.
From the distance she was standing, the sound was barely audible.

However, Kurando's body slightly bent forward.

Although his consciousness was hazy, Hayato didn't miss this chance and musters all of his strength.

Perhaps, Hayato had turned the tables on Kurando, allowing『himself (Hayato)』to make a comeback.
Kurando was relentless. He didn't hesitate and showed no signs of wavering.

Hayato was desperately trying to shake free from Kurando's hand, kicking at Kurando, each kick causing Kurando to slightly hover into the air.
However, for only a second did a gap appeared in Kurando's assault.
At that moment, Kurando was off balance. Perhaps while beneath Kurando, Hayato had hit Kurando with a counter.
However, Kurando's body did not collapse unconscious onto Hayato's body.

Hayato kicks but misses.
Kurando's eye sparkles.
A hint of danger reflects in Kurando eyes.
It is no exaggeration to say that Kurando was waiting for this moment to deliver a finishing blow.
Kurando pulled back his knee and placed his leg firmly on the ground.
He puts his entire body into it.
In an instant, he brings down his full body weight aimed at a guy's part that anyone would cringe if they saw being hit. With all his might, Kurando swings his fist downwards.

Onto that person's crotch.

It was a combination of Kurando bodyweight + rotation energy + the strength of Kurando's muscles.
The result was the quiet sound of something small being crushed.

「Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh」(Hayato)

"*Tsk*, did I only smashed one?", Kurando thought.
Kurando's quiet mutter was drowned out by Hayato's groan.
By the way, in this world, a lost body part can be restored.
As long as a small part of it remains, with a considerable amount of money and one~two years of excruciating pain, a body part can be restored.
In Hayato's case, a full recovery might not be possible.

「*Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh*」(Hayato)
While Hayato is groaning, Kurando turns to look at Aoi.

Upon seeing Kurando's cheerful expression, Aoi announced this with a wry smile.
「The winner is, Kuran——」(Aoi)

「——that is a foul.」(hayato's companions)
Along with Erika, who had received medical treatment, Hayato's party together quickly raised an objection.
When Erika's line-of-sight fell onto Kurando, her body trembled.
「B-b-balls, low blows in a duel is a shameful act. Th-that should not be permitted.」(Erika)
As Erika conveys this to Aoi, Erika avoids eye contact with Kurando.
She has developed a perfect trauma towards Kurando.
That couldn't be helped due to how he threatened her and gouged her with a knife.

「Arubaumu (アルバウム) traditional rules pertaining to duels does not allow foul play. The United Kingdom of Erurodriana's rules involving duels should also be the same.」(Arisu)
Arisu follows up on Erika's statement, causing Aoi to frown.
It was no law, merely a free rule.
As expected, Aoi was unaware of it.
It is not a law.
Oofuia and Makushiimu didn't know either.
In the first place, a duel is something nobles did. As such, in an ordinary man's duel, the rules are not clear.
Above all, Oofuia and Makushiimu have no experience with duels. As of the few duels, most are to the death and there is no way of finding out the traditional rules.
Naturally, Akari wouldn't know.

「Is this not a personal matter? It is not something boorish?」(Makushiimu)
「Hayato is Arubaumu's hero and I, the 3rd princess, am Hayato's guardian. This is not a personal matter. It would be troublesome to write this off as a simple tavern brawl.」(Arisu)

Arisu cuts down Makushiimu objection with a single stroke.
Makushiimu groans and then falls silent.
「This is a simple brawl.」(Oofuia)
However, Oofuia followed up.
Arisu's cheek then cramps up.
「『Maruuna・Niyuumu』chief lady, you should watch what you say.」(Arisu)
「How could this be anything but a brawl? A kingdom's authority has no place in this matter.」(Oofuia)
「What, are you really okay with making an enemy out of Arubaumu?」(Arisu)
「You're merely the 3rd princess and besides, the royal family does not have any real political power.」(Oofuia)
Arisu frowns.
「But still, my people have great faith in the royal family and Hayato is the national hero of Arubaumu. If that man's foul play is brought to light, the nation will surely support us and the parliament will then rule in our favor. When that happens, no matter how much that refugee shouts, no one will believe him.」(Arisu)
This is what happened when a child wields political power.
Oofuia saw this matter no other way.
「Oh I see, certainly that is possible. Well, if that time comes, I won't stay silent. However, Kurando-san's foul play, awhile ago, is rather insignificant compared to your royal highness's methods. You were the one who knocked Kurando off balance. You intended to prevent Kurando-san from being declared the victory by using any means, correct?」(Oofuia)
The surrounding became noisy.
Hayato, Kurando, and all members present, look over to Arisu.
Oofuia directs a gaze filled with pity towards Arisu
「……I don't know what you are talking about? Where is your evidence?」(Arisu)
「They don't call me a『magic guide』for nothing now. I am sure if we give you a physical examination, we are bound to discover something.」(Oofuia)
「You do not have the authority to do so and I will not permit you to give royalty a physical examination (frisking).」(Arisu)
Sweat ran down Arisu's face.
At that moment.

——*plop*

Suddenly, like a puppet that had its strings cut, Kurando crumbles to the floor.
Kurando was desperately trying to not fall down until he was declared the winner of the duel.
If he were to collapse now, the match would be left unsettled.
Kurando tries to speak up and using all his power to stand up.
His efforts, however, had the opposite effect.

Oofuia didn't think Kurando's wounds would be serious enough that he couldn't stand up because she did not sense that strong wind spirit power was used.
Aoi immediately rushed over, followed by Oofuia and the others.

Having rushed over, Aoi discovered blood overflowing from Kurando's back.
There was a pool of blood in the spot where Kurando was standing.
Because Kurando was bleeding from his back, Aoi had not noticed it beforehand.
「……someone hurry!」(Aoi)
She shouts out for someone to give Kurando emergency medical treatment.
There are 3 holes in Kurando's back.
Kurando didn't seem to have enough maryoku to restore his wounds.
Obviously, this was not from any of Hayato's attacks.

Oofuia and the others rush over to treat Kurando's wounds.
「Kurando-san, are you conscious?」(Akari)
Akari goes to confirm if Kurando's is still conscious.
She confirms that he has not lost consciousness.
However, Kurando has lost too much maryoku and blood.

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「Arisu……」(Oofuia)
「It wasn't m——」(Arisu)
Upon Oofuia's words, Hayato saw the 3 wounds on Kurando's back and had guessed the cause.
Hayato looks towards the small burst fire (3 rounds) magic gun hidden behind Arisu's waist.
And thus, Arisu shows a sad expression.

The two of them stared at one another.
Finally unable to bear Hayato's gaze, Arisu bursted into tears.
She couldn't stand to watch as that man hit Hayato.
"Hayato is going to die", she thought.
Therefore, Arisu fired her gun.
She was more concerned with Hayato than her country.
Hayato's past did not matter. She reported nothing to her country.
She had no interest in anything that was not in Hayato favor.
Therefore, she fired her gun.
With Hayato's help, they developed this burst fire magic gun.
It was enjoyable creating this magic weapon with Hayato.
She belonged nowhere else but at his side.
That is why Arisu fired her gun.

The magic gun that she and Hayato had developed required little maryoku. It was intended to be used to break an opponent's barriers. The magic gun's 3 shot rapid fire had mercilessly torn into Kurando, who did not have any barriers up. Although the three wound were not fatal, it was deep.
「……*uh, uuuh*」(Kurando)
Kurando responds to Akari's voice.
「Kurando-san, please accept the magic.」(Akari)
Kurando faintly nods; his mouth moves, but his voice doesn't come out.
Oofuia begins the healing process right away.
「What is this small object……」(Oofuia)
Oofuia had closed her eyes and placed her hand over Kurando's wounds.
Oofuia mutters to herself as she does her work.
And thus, she opens her eyes. Oofuia was holding something in her hand.

It was 3 small stones. These hardened stones are placed on her palm.
「The foreign objects have been removed, I suggest you hurry with the life spirit healing magic……」(Oofuia)
There isn't enough blood.
Although the wound is closed, it is unsure of whether Kurando's condition will stabilize.
In this world, there is no blood transfusion.
The idea of doing a blood transfusion is taboo.

Furthermore, there the idea is impractical. It would be very difficult to develop a system to manage all of the different races and tribes. It might even be an impossible task for modern day Japan.
Perhaps, blood transfusion itself is impossible in this world.

「How, it is? Is it, my loss?」(Kurando)
Aoi responses to Kurando broken speech by shaking her head from side to side.
Aoi stands up.
「With Oofuia-dono's testimony, these three wounds are proof of Hayato Ichihara's party's interference. Due to foul play, Hayato Ichihara is——」(Aoi)
「——*Ahem*, in the kingdom, the traditional rules state that the act of foul play does not apply to an outside disturbance, only the participants. As such, it is not possible to prove who had interfered.」(Arisu)
Before anyone noticed, Arisu had raised her tear stained face.
Despite being in tear, this is Arisu, the Academy's prodigy.
If Hayato is condemned in any way, his companions with defending him regardless of the matter.
「Did you not moments ago bring up the traditional rules of a duel. Stop with your irresponsibleness.」(Aoi)
「Shut up. Do you really want to deal with Arubaumu!」(Arisu)
At that time, Kurando coughs up blood and Oofuia moves to heal him.

Arisu abuses every rule she could and threatening Aoi.
「Oh, then, how about the person who obstructed the duel be tested by my divine blessing?」(Aoi)
「I refuse. Are those rules not something you yourself had decided on? Besides, can a mere priestess of Sandora even force an Arubaumu kingdom royalty to stay trial?」(Arisu)
Aoi is surprised by the girl's quick thinking.
If this was Japan, a grade schooler cannot be forced to stand trial.
In addition, Sandora main temple in the western province is nearby Arubauma and they have a complicated relationship.
The state religion of Arubauma is Sandora and the main temple is geography surrounded and protected by the Arubauma kingdom. While they are not subordinated, if a priest of Sandora were to put an Arubauma royalty on trial, it would cause an uproar.

Aoi reached the point to where she thought the proud girl to be rather pitiful. However, it was for a different reason.
「Then, tell me, what sort of punishment does a person who intervenes in a traditional duel receive?」(Aoi)
「Umm, as long as the king allows it there is no punishment. And, as long as the king does not object the duel cannot be overturned.
To interfere in a duel is foul play you may say, but that is no concern to me as I merely intervened to protect Hayato.」(Arisu)
In other words, the rules itself were twisted.
Perhaps, in the first place, the rules were made up and controlled by the royals and aristocrats. As such, this tradition just happened to be inherited.

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Hayato suddenly approaches Arisu.
Arisu nervously looked up at Hayato.

Slap.

He slaps Arisu's cheek.
「I'm glad that you are doing this for my sake, but don't do anything needless. The same goes for Erika and Kuu.」(Hayato)
Hayato turns his attention towards the other two.
The two trembled.
「More than anything, I want you to believe in me.」(Hayato)
Hayato says something quite sad.
And thus, three girls began to weep.
「I'm sorry.」(Erica)
「……sorry.」(Kuu)
「Hayato onii-chan, I'm sorry.」(Arisu)
The way Arisu acting is befitting of her age.

Hayato approaches the collapsed Kurando to say something.
「My companions have apologized. As for the result of this duel——」(Hayato)
「——what a joke.」(Kurando)
Kurando interrupts Hayato's speech.
He staggers to get up, pushing Akari and Oofuia aside.
「Deciding things at your own convenience. What bull crap.」(Kurando)

As Kurando stood there, he glared at Hayato.
Although he was glaring at Hayato, what Kurando saw was not a person, it was a pebble, no, it was horse crap laying by the roadside.
「That is why I'm apologizing——」(Hayato)

「——you can apologize as much as you want over my grave. Surely, you will be forgiven.」(Kurando)
(T/N: sarcasm)

Kurando pushes Hayato aside and continued to walk by.
「Kurando-san, you shouldn't be moving.」(Akari)
Kurando disregards Akari's warning.
He accidently falls.
"*Ah*", leaked from Akari's mouth.

However, Kurando doesn't fall as Yukishiro is there to support him.
Yukishiro's long tail can be seen carrying all of Kurando's luggage.
「……」(Kurando)
He silently pats Yukishiro.

——*Grrowww*

Kurando entrusted the rest to Yukishiro. However, as if it wanted to say something, Yukishiro's voice echoed in the darkness as it roared out.

In the end, Kurando and Yukishiro disappeared into the shadows behind the trees.

– ToC –